

Anti- Bullying Policy



Policy Reviewed Autumn 2010, Spring 2013, Autumn 2017, Spring 2020, Spring 2023

Next Review Spring Term 2026



Signed

Statement of Intent

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable in our school. If bullying does occur, all pupils should be able to tell and know incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a listening and telling school. This means that *anyone* who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff and know that they will be listened to.

What is bullying?

Bullying is the **repeated use of aggression** with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

Bullying can be:

- Emotional being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting
(e.g. hiding books threatening gestures) gossiping,
humiliation, using difference as a dividing factor
- Physical pushing, kicking, shaking, hitting, punching or any
use of violence, blocking the way, contact involving
objects used as weapons
- Racist racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Sexual unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive
comments
- Provocative inciting others to behave in a threatening/racist
sexist or homophobic way, bringing provocative
literature or homophobic propaganda
- Verbal name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
threatening, bragging, ridicule, offensive

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comments

- Non-verbal staring, giving threatening looks, intimidation, body language, stalking, refusing to touch, playing mind games
- Cyber all areas of internet, such as email and internet chat room misuse, mobile phone misuse including audio, visual and text, pictures/video clips, instant messaging
- Other extortion, blackmail, hiding or interfering with personal property

Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying?

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect. Pupils who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving.

We have a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

Objectives of this Policy

- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff should know what the school policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported.
- All pupils and parents should know what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises.
- As a school we take bullying seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Bullying will not be tolerated.

Signs and Symptoms

A child may indicate by signs of behaviour that he or she is being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and they should investigate if a child:

- is frightened of walking to and from school
- is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
- becomes withdrawn anxious or lacking in confidence
- starts stammering
- attempts or threatens self-harm
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- feels ill in the morning
- begins to underachieve in school work
- comes home with clothes torn or books damaged
- has possessions which are damaged or "go missing"
- asks for money or starts stealing money (to pay bully)
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- comes home hungry (lunch has been stolen)
- becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- is bullying other children or siblings
- stops eating
- is frightened to say what's wrong
- gives improbable excuses for any of the above
- is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone

These signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated

Procedures

1. Report bullying incidents to staff or staff will monitor if aware of above changes and symptoms
2. Investigate with all known parties involved to ascertain what has been happening
3. Observations of possible bully and victim will be conducted by staff and record if appropriate

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4. Parents will be informed or may be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem
5. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying will be investigated to stop the incidents reoccurring
6. Support will be given to the bully to try and change their behaviour

Outcomes

1. The bully (bullies) will be asked to genuinely apologise with other consequences possibly taking place e.g. missing playtimes, writing a sorry letter to the victim
2. Teach them why it is unacceptable behaviour linked with aims and values and zones of regulation
3. In serious cases, exclusions will be considered
4. If possible the pupils will be reconciled
5. After the incident/incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

Prevention

All staff are consistent in their approach and follow the school guidance. We use, PSHCE and discussions surrounding the aims and values in helping children to prevent bullying. As and when appropriate, these may include:

- Reading, writing and understanding a set of school rules
- Writing stories or poems or drawing pictures about bullying
- Reading stories about bullying or having them read to a class or assembly
- Making up role-plays and practising strategies
- Having discussions about bullying and its' impact
- Exploring our emotions

This policy needs to be read in conjunction with our Behaviour Policy