



FRIENDSHIP AND ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

This policy was reviewed: January 2016

The policy will next be reviewed: January 2017

Information for Parents

What is bullying?

Bullying is behaviour by an individual or group that is *intentional, repeated over time, and is hurtful.*

Forms of Bullying

- general bullying
- race and religion
- disablist
- appearance related
- sexism
- cyber bullying
- homophobic bullying.:

Bullying Behaviour:

- *Physical bullying:* hitting, punching, pinching or breaking property.
- *Verbal bullying:* name calling, threats, belittling
- *Indirect bullying:* spreading hurtful rumours, excluding a children from a group
- *Cyber bullying:* sending nasty phone calls, text messages or e-mails

Things we do to prevent bullying behaviour:

- Whole school assemblies to discuss bullying and raise awareness
- Friendships and bullying are discussed and taught in class
- All pupils are involved in discussions about bullying, ways of preventing bullying and supporting those who are bullied.
- Trained playtime friends to resolve problems and low level bullying behaviour during playtime and lunchtime.

Things we do to respond to bullying behaviour:

Where bullying does occur this will be followed by an immediate and appropriate response, including the use of consequences where necessary.

The class teacher will discuss the incident with the child being bullied. The incident will then be discussed with the child/ children involved in the bullying and information

gathered from any witnesses. A restorative approach is adopted and where appropriate, sanctions are applied in line with the behaviour policy.

Where the bullying is of a serious nature, a member of SMT (Senior Management Team) will be informed, together with the parents of all those involved. Appropriate sanctions will be applied, behaviour logged and actions taken regularly reviewed.

Our intention is always to help children to become Forever Proud of their behaviours and actions. Children are educated about bullying through a variety of means including circle time, one to one, group sessions, assemblies, social intervention groups, Nurture sessions.

Sanctions for bullying include official warning, withdrawal of certain school privileges, exclusion from certain areas of the school, minor fixed term exclusion, major fixed term exclusion, permanent exclusion

I think my child is being bullied...

If you are worried that your child is being bullied discuss your concerns with your child.

- Be patient and take time to listen
- Ask questions, but be sensitive – don't interrogate.
- Explore facts, and ask them if/ what part they had in any lead up
- Write a log of all the incidents including dates and list any witnessed
- Discuss with your child what you would like them to do about it
- Be clear that it is important for the bullying to stop and that the school will have to be involved.

How do I express my concerns to the school?

It is important that parents and the school work together to try to resolve the problem.

- Make an appointment with your child's teacher/ Assistant Headteacher/ Headteacher as soon as possible to discuss the problem.
- Before the meeting, think about what you want to say and talk to your child about what is happening.
- Go to the meeting with all the information about what happened, who was involved and how your child has been affected.
- Try and stay as calm as possible.
- If possible be ready with some suggestions that the school could try.
- If your child doesn't want the bullies told off make this clear to staff, but if staff are aware they can look out for bullying behaviour. However, if the bullying is

serious, schools do have a responsibility to take action, even if your child wants them to do nothing.

- Remember schools need time to carry out their own investigation.
- Keep notes about your meeting outlining the main points and any action you have been told the school will be taking.