



## Anti-Bullying Policy

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils so they can learn in a calm and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. If bullying does occur, all pupils should feel able to tell a trusted adult and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively.

### What is Bullying?

Bullying involves dominance of one person by another, or a group of others, is premeditated and usually forms a pattern of behaviour. Bullying is therefore:

- Deliberately hurtful
- Repeated, often over a period of time
- Difficult for victims to defend themselves against.

It can take many forms and the main types are:

- Physical – hitting, kicking, taking another's belongings
- Verbal – name calling, insulting, making offensive remarks
- Indirect – spreading nasty stories about someone, exclusion from social groups, being made the subject of malicious rumours, sending malicious emails or text messages on mobile phones/social networking sites.

Some forms of bullying are attacks not only on the individual, but also on the group to which he or she may belong. These include:

- Racial harassment and racist bullying
- Sexual bullying
- The use of homophobic language
- Bullying of pupils who have special educational needs or disabilities.

### Responding to Incidents

Pupils who have been bullied or seen bullying should report this to:

- Any trusted member of staff
- Their parents
- A school friend

Members of staff who receive reports that a pupil has been bullied should report this to

- A member of the senior management team

Reports of bullying will be logged by the class teacher or member of SLT on the school's management information system. Where bullying is of a racist nature, we will report this to the Local

Education Authority using the Racial Incident Report Form. All reports will be taken seriously and will be followed up by the class teacher or member of the SLT

## **Proactive and Reactive Prevention of Bullying**

We use the school's Curriculum and Behaviour Policy to create an anti-bullying climate where pupils behave well, take responsibility for each other's emotional and social well-being and they include and support each other. Our Curriculum enables the children to learn and practise these skills.

When dealing with incidents of bullying we will use a range of strategies, selecting those appropriate to the circumstances to educate the bully and support the victim of bullying. If necessary, we will invoke the range of sanctions that are in line with the school's Behaviour Policy. Pupils who are victims of bullying will be reassured that they do not deserve to be bullied and this is not their fault. We will assure them that it was right to report the incident and encourage them to talk about how they feel.

## **Bullying Outside the School Premises (including online bullying)**

Whilst schools are not directly responsible for bullying that occurs off the premises, we know that bullying can occur outside the school gates and on journeys to and from school and online and will provide support for the pupils. The bullying may be done by pupils from our own school, by pupils from other schools or by people who are not at school at all. Where a pupil or parent informs us of bullying off the school premises we will:

- Talk to pupils about how to avoid or handle bullying outside of school
- Talk with the pupil's parents
- Talk to the Headteacher of any other school whose pupils are bullying
- Talk to the police where this is deemed necessary

## **Concerns, Complaints and Compliments**

We recognise that there may be times when parents feel that we have not dealt well with an incident of bullying and we would ask that this be brought to the Headteacher's notice. If the Headteacher cannot resolve these concerns informally, parents can raise their concerns more formally through the school's Complaints Procedure and a copy can be viewed on the website or a paper copy obtained from the school office. We would also be pleased to receive feedback from parents when things have gone well.

**Last reviewed by Governors: January 2026**