

Vicarage Park C of E Primary



Preventing and Tackling Bullying Policy

Preventing and Tackling Bullying (Dfe 2017)

What is bullying?

Bullying is

- **behaviour by an individual or group**
- **repeated over time,**
- **that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally.**

NB – people are NOT bullies, they engage in bullying

Bullying can take many **forms** (for instance, cyber-bullying via text messages or the internet), and is often **motivated by prejudice** against particular groups, for example on grounds of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or because a child is adopted or has caring responsibilities. It might be **motivated by actual differences between children, or perceived differences.**

Stopping violence and ensuring immediate **physical safety** is obviously a school's first priority but **emotional bullying** can be more damaging than physical; teachers and schools have to make their own judgements about each specific case.

Successful Schools:

- Have values that promote respect, learning and dealing with the consequences of actions
- Have clear policies to deal with behaviour which are clearly communicated and understood to ensure timely responses
- Create an environment that prevents bullying being a problem in the first place
- Have an ethos of good behaviour where everyone is treated with respect.
- Have a well developed understanding of how our actions affect others
- Proactively gather intelligence about issues between pupils which might provoke conflict.
- Have strategies to prevent bullying occurring
- Hold regular curriculum activities around bullying
- Consider the motivation behind bullying behaviour and find support for the perpetrator if necessary
- Involve parents
- Involve pupils
- Regularly evaluate and update their approach
- Implement sanctions

- Talk about issues of difference
- Refer to organisations and use their resources
- Provide effective staff training
- Work with the wider community
- Establish an easy reporting system for pupils
- Establish a consistent approach to monitoring bullying incidents and evaluate the effectiveness of the school's approach
- Create an inclusive environment
- Celebrate success and create a positive ethos
- Support mental health and wellbeing

Resources

The following sites are 'recognised' by the DfE and will be shared with parents as useful resources

- www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk
- www.beatbullying.org
- www.kidscape.org.uk
- www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Bullying Prevention File - Documentation

- Positive Behaviour Policy
- This Policy
- Prevention Strategies - (see appendices)
- Proactive intervention record – (see appendices)
- Reactive intervention record – (see appendices)
- Pupil voice



Prevention Strategies

- Whole school, class and individual focus on the values of Compassion, Responsibility and Courage
- Collective worship that focuses on the values in our community
- Through story, circle time and real-life experiences, difference is celebrated in the school
- Children are encouraged to know their trusted adults and feel free to approach them with any concerns
- Children understand that their actions can result in negative as well as positive consequences
- Staff are trained in positive behaviour management and early warning signs in behaviours
- Staff use consistent communication and recording methods so that the school can act pro-actively
- Parents are communicated with openly and have appropriate channels to communicate openly with the school
- Behaviour in each class is monitored so that there can be celebration and the children focus on the areas they need to develop next

