



Bowesfield
Primary School

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Anti-bullying policy 2020

Date approved by Governing Body: 30.11.20.
Review Date: November 2021

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 3

The best interests of the child must be top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.

Article 19

Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents or anyone else who looks after them.

Article 34

Governments must protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation.

Article 36

Governments must protect children from all other forms of bad treatment.

Article 39

Children neglected, abused, exploited, tortured or who are victims of war must receive special help to help them recover their health, dignity and self-respect.

Statement of intent

At Bowesfield Primary we aim to challenge bullying effectively to improve the safety and happiness of pupils, show that the school cares about their well-being and make clear to those children who use bullying behaviour that their behaviour is unacceptable.

Objectives

All pupils, parents / carers, staff and governors have an understanding of what bullying is.

All staff and governors know and understand the school policy and follow it when bullying is reported

All pupils, parents / carers know and understand the school policy and what they should do if bullying arises

Definition of bullying:

The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. It can happen face to face or online.

(Anti-bullying Alliance)

There are four main elements to this definition: hurtful, repetition, power imbalance, intentional.

Bullying behaviour can be:

Physical: pushing, poking, kicking, hitting, biting, pinching, pulling hair, damaging someone's belongings

Verbal: name-calling, sarcasm, parodying speech or accent, spreading rumours, threats, teasing, belittling.

Emotional – isolating others, tormenting, hiding books, threatening gestures, ridicule, humiliation, intimidating, excluding, manipulation and coercion.

Sexual – unwanted physical contact, inappropriate touching, abusive comments, homophobic abuse, exposure to inappropriate films etc.

Online /cyber – posting on social media, sharing photos, sending nasty text messages, social exclusion

Indirect - Can include the exploitation of individuals.

Spotting the signs that a child may be being bullied (although they may be unhappy for another reason)

Parents / carers know their child best so will be aware if something seems wrong.

The type of behaviour that might be an indication of bullying includes

a reluctance to go to school or another activity;

unexplained tummy upsets or headaches;

showing signs of distress on a Sunday night or at the end of school holidays;

becoming either quiet or withdrawn, or playing up;

torn clothes and missing belongings;

seeming upset after using their phone, tablets, computers etc; and

wanting to leave for school / an activity much earlier than necessary or returning home late.

Bullying can have a serious and long lasting impact on a child's mental health so if your child is showing signs of serious distress - such as depression, anxiety and self-harm always see a GP.

Procedures for reporting bullying or suspected bullying:

Pupils

If you are being bullied, or you see bullying happening to someone else, tell any adult in school. You can ask to see them and talk to them on their own. You can have a friend or an adult from home with you.

If you are not able to talk about it, write a message and put it into a worry box. Please put your name on your message.

If you would prefer to tell someone at home, please ask them to come and talk to your teacher, or the Headteacher.

You will be asked to talk about what is happening, when and where it is happening, and who is involved.

The Headteacher will ask you to think about how you want the bullying to be discussed so that it can be sorted out

- for you and the person upsetting you to be talked to separately
- for you and the person upsetting you to be talked to together
- for the class to be talked to about the problem without the people involved being named

Whatever is decided, your parents / carer and the parent / carer of the person upsetting you will be informed. The adults who work with you will also be told, so that they can check that the problem has been sorted out and does not start again. If the problem happens again, keep telling until it stops.

Parents / carers

Listen carefully and calmly to your child. Give them time and space to think and talk rather than asking lots of questions. Make sure they know you take them seriously, that it is not their fault and that you will tell an adult in school what is happening so that it can be sorted out.

Report the problem to your child's teacher or the headteacher so that they can find out more about what has happened and begin to sort the problem out.

We will tell you what we have found out, and what we have done to sort the problem out.

If the problem continues, come back and tell us so that we can take action.

Staff

All adults within school are role models for pupils and must ensure that their behaviour and relationships within school reflect the school aims.

Staff who are victims of bullying are supported in line with the Local Authority Human Resources Anti-bullying policy.

If a bullying problem is reported to you, follow the school procedures below.

Listen to the victim and talk to them about whether they would like the child upsetting them to be spoken to separately or with them present.

Reassure the victim that the bullying is not their fault.

Discuss strategies with the victim that could support them and may prevent the problem happening again

Use the school behaviour policy as appropriate

Inform parents / carers of the victim and the other child/ren involved of the action taken. Offer a review meeting with the parents / carers of the victim to check that the problem has been resolved.

Record the incident on CPOMS. Please including the following details: Date, reported by, victim, nature of problem, action taken. Please do not name other children when or recording for a pupil – use 'another child'. An entry should be made on the victim and the person doing the bullying's log.

Strategies to prevent and raise awareness of bullying

Teaching through PSHE curriculum based on Jigsaw and in online safety. Resources are also available on the Anti-bullying Alliance's website.

Worry boxes in each classroom checked daily. Feelings charts in each classroom.

Adults meet and greet pupils and accompany classes to cloakrooms at the end of sessions.

Rights Respecting schools work

Review

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Useful resources:

Anti-bullying Alliance

A coalition of organisations and individuals that are united against bullying.

<https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/>

Anti-bullying Network

Information sheets for young people, parents and school staff as well as information and links to relevant organisations.

www.antibullying.net

BullyingUK

Sections on advice for parents, pupils, teachers and youth workers, legal advice, school projects, problem page for children and young people, mobile phone bullying, racist bullying, online safety, help for bullies, tips, links.

www.bullying.co.uk

Childline

24-hour helpline for children and young people in the UK. Also teachers' packs, quizzes, stories, information sheets, policy and campaign information.

Tel: 0800 1111
www.childline.org.uk

Don't suffer in silence

DfE site on bullying with sections for pupils, teachers, parents and families; includes case studies, anti-bullying packs for schools, links to other sites.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-and-tackling-bullying>

Kidscape

Frequently asked questions on bullying for children and young people, information and training for parents and professionals, anti-bullying policies and related guidelines, peer support schemes, publications and links.
Tel: 0845 120 5204
www.kidscape.org.uk

Parentlineplus

Support for anyone parenting a child and for professionals, wide range of topics, training, information for children (7–11) and for young people (11–16), quiz, factsheets, leaflets, other publications, news.
www.parentlineplus.org.uk

Review Date	Changes made	Ratification Date by Governing Body
November 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Update of definition of bullying and what it can look like- Update of how to record a bullying incident using CPOMS- Update / check of hyperlinks in resource section- Update of how bullying awareness is taught in school	