



Anti-Bullying Policy

Policy Details

Start Date : September 2023

Review Date: September 2026

Introduction

At Abbey C of E Infant and nursery School our vision is for all children to *Love, Laugh and Learn* in order for them to fulfil their potential academically, spiritually, emotionally, physically and morally.

All children have the right to go to school without being bullied. We should encourage development of respect, trust, caring and consideration for others to maintain a positive School atmosphere. It should be clear to children that bullying is a serious offence against the whole school community and will be dealt with appropriately. (See Behaviour Policy).

Our aims

The aim of the Anti-Bullying Policy is to ensure that pupils learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied. Bullying is an anti-social behaviour and affects everyone; it is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

We have a legal duty under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 to draw up procedures to prevent bullying among pupils and to bring these procedures to the attention of staff, parents and pupils.

Definition of Bullying

- Bullying is the wilful desire to hurt, threaten or frighten someone.
- Bullying can be persistent.
- It causes physical, emotional or mental hurt to the victim.
- It can be both physical and verbal, including name calling, teasing, taunting both racial and sexual as well as rude gestures, intimidation and extortion.
- It can be perpetuated by an individual or a group.
- It violates a person's freedom and rights.

Detecting Bullying

All staff and parents need to be able to recognise the signs of distress that may indicate a child is being bullied:

- Cuts, bruises, aches and pains that cannot be explained.
- Clothes or possessions that are damaged or lost.
- Not wanting to be in the playground at break or dinner time.
- Reluctance or refusal to attend school.

There may be evidence of changes in the child's work patterns, lacking concentration or truanting from school, becoming moody, clingy, aggressive or non-communicative.

Implementation

The following steps may be taken when dealing with incidents:

If bullying is suspected or reported, the incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff who has been approached. A clear account of the incident will be recorded on CPOMS as a behaviour incident and shared with relevant teachers, including DSLs, Thrive lead practitioners and HT. All children involved will be spoken to by a teacher and a record of the incident will be kept on CPOMS (recorded as a behaviour incident). If considered necessary parents will be informed. If parents have reported concerns regarding suspected bullying, they should receive, same day, feedback on the outcomes of investigations and any planned follow up actions.

Disciplinary measures will be used as appropriate and in consultation with all parties concerned.

Pupils who have been bullied will be supported by offering an immediate opportunity to discuss the experience with a member of staff. The pupil will be reassured and offered continuous support to restore self-esteem and confidence.

Within the curriculum the school will raise the awareness of the nature of bullying through:

- Jigsaw PSHE materials;
- Ensuring that religious, cultural and gender issues are addressed;
- Ensuring that everyone knows the school rules;
- Encouraging positive play and establishing playground rules;
- Thrive interventions;
- Social interaction group support and interventions;
- Social stories to teach appropriate behaviours.

Prevention and Supporting Children

The school community will maintain an ethos where children feel secure, are encouraged to talk and are always listened to. We will ensure that all children know there is an adult in the school whom they can approach if they are worried or in difficulty.

Governors Responsibilities

Governors are required to:

- Understand and be aware of the Anti-bullying Policy.
- Support staff in implementing the policy.
- Take an active role in the review and maintenance of the Policy.

Monitoring, evaluation and review

The school will review this policy every 3 years and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

Signed..... (Headteacher)

Signed.....(Chair of Governors) Date.....