



Bournville Primary School

Anti-Bullying Policy

Date Ratified: 4th October 2016

Signed By: 
On behalf of School Governors

Signed By: 
Headteacher

Review Date: October 2017

Anti-Bullying Policy

Statement of Intent

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our children so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. If bullying does occur, all children should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a *TELLING* school. This means that *anyone* who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff.

What Is Bullying?

Bullying is defined as deliberately hurtful behaviour, repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. The three main types of bullying are:

- physical (hitting, kicking, theft)
- verbal (name calling, racist remarks)
- indirect (spreading rumours, excluding someone from social groups).

Bullying can be:

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|---------------------|--|
| • Emotional | Being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures) |
| • Physical | Pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence |
| • Racist | Racial taunts, graffiti, gestures |
| • Sexual | Unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments |
| • Homophobic | Because of, or focusing on the issue of sexuality |
| • Verbal | Name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing |
| • Cyber | All areas of internet, such as email & internet social media/chat room misuse; Mobile threats by text messaging & calls; Misuse of associated technology , i.e. camera and video facilities. |

Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying?

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect. Children who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving.

We have a responsibility to all our children and respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying or perceived bullying.

Objectives of this Policy

- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, children and parents/carers should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- All governors and teaching and non-teaching staff should know what the school policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported.
- All children and parents/carers should know what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises.
- As a school we take bullying seriously. Children and parents/carers should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Bullying will not be tolerated.

Signs and Symptoms

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that he or she is being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and that they should investigate if a child:

- is frightened of walking to or from school
- doesn't want to go on the school / public bus
- begs to be driven to school
- changes their usual routine
- is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
- begins to truant
- becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence
- starts stammering
- attempts or threatens suicide or runs away
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- feels ill in the morning
- begins to do poorly in school work
- comes home with clothes torn or books damaged
- has possessions which are damaged or "go missing"
- asks for money or starts stealing money (to pay bully)
- has dinner or other monies continually "lost"
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- comes home starving (money / lunch has been stolen)
- becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- is bullying other children or siblings
- stops eating
- is frightened to say what's wrong
- gives improbable excuses for any of the above
- is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone
- is nervous & jumpy when a cyber message is received

These signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and will be investigated

Support in school

As part of our ongoing PHSE programme we:

- Give children guidance on how to make the right choices.
- Give children strategies to cope with friendship problems.

- Give children time to practice and discuss smart thinking
'Stop, Think, Choose, Do'
- Use circle and bubble time to discuss problems and find solutions
- Explore cyber bullying as a category within the e-safety curriculum

As a whole school we promote national anti-bullying week through specific teaching, circle times, activities and assemblies. Key information and children's learning is shared with parents/carers and the local community.

Schools' teaching and ancillary staff are alerted to the signs of bullying and act promptly and firmly against it in accordance with school policy.

Statutory duty of schools

Headteacher's have a legal duty under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 to draw up procedures to prevent bullying among children and to bring these procedures to the attention of staff, parents/carers and children.

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 and given to the Headteacher
- The Headteacher will interview all concerned and will record the incident
- Teachers and TA's will be kept informed and if it persists
- Restorative justice will be used whenever possible, with a solution to move on and what to do next time.
- The child will be separated from the behaviour

Children who have been bullied will be supported by:

- offering an immediate opportunity to discuss the experience with an adult of their choice
- reassuring the child
- offering continuous support
- restoring self-esteem and confidence.

Children who have bullied will be helped by:

- discussing what happened
- discovering why the child became involved
- establishing the wrong doing and need to change
- informing parents/carers to help change the attitude of the child.

Family members of children who have been affected by bullying will be supported by:

- Regular communication with the school
- Support/guidance from the Learning Mentor team
- Guidance for accessing further support

The following disciplinary steps can be taken: [see behaviour policy]

- official warnings to cease behaviour
- detentions
- exclusion from certain areas of school premises or from certain activities
- minor fixed-term exclusion
- major fixed-term exclusion
- permanent exclusion.

Within the curriculum the school will raise the awareness of the nature of bullying through inclusion in PSHE, e-safety, circle time, assemblies and subject areas, as appropriate, in an attempt to eradicate such behaviour.

Monitoring, evaluation and review

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

Prevention

We will use KIDSCAPE methods for helping children to prevent bullying. As and when appropriate, these may include:

- writing a set of school expectations
- signing a behaviour contract
- writing stories or poems or drawing pictures about bullying
- reading stories about bullying or having them read to a class or assembly
- making up role-plays (or using KIDSCAPE role-plays)
- having discussions about bullying and why it matters

HELP ORGANISATIONS:

Advisory Centre for Education (ACE)	0300 0115 142
Children's Legal Centre	0845 345 4345
KIDSCAPE Parents Helpline (Mon-Fri, 10-4)	0845 1 205 204
Parent line Plus	0808 800 2222
Youth Access	020 8772 9900
Bullying Online	www.bullying.co.uk stopcyberbullying.org
Childline	0800 1111

Visit the Kidscape website www.kidscape.org.uk for further support, links and advice.