



ST HELENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

We believe that every child has the right to learn in a secure and safe environment and that no child has the right to disrupt the learning of others. We aim to ensure fairness for all children and to have a consistent response from all staff in line with our Behaviour, Safeguarding and Anti-Bullying Policies.

We encourage a positive relationship with parents and carers to develop a shared approach to involve them in the implementation of the school's Behaviour, Safeguarding and Anti-Bullying Policies.

The Foundation of our Anti-Bullying Policy

All children should feel safe in school. We want children to be happy in school so that they can concentrate on their school work, do their best and enjoy playing with each other.

All staff are aware that abuse/ bullying from peer to peer can take place in a variety of different ways including sexting and cyber bullying and the school works hard with all stakeholders, including parents in order to be vigilant to such issues.

Aim

The aim of our anti-bullying policy is to ensure that pupils learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied.

All staff are aware that children with disabilities/SEN present additional challenges due to their vulnerability.

Assumptions are that indicators of possible abuse relate to the child's disabilities.

There is potential for these children to be suffering abuse without showing outward signs and there may be communication barriers and difficulties.

Bullying is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

What Bullying is:

We have defined bullying as **deliberately** hurtful behaviour repeated over a period of time.

Bullying may be:

- Verbal (name calling, unkind or racist remarks)
- Written (including online and texting)
- Physical (hitting or kicking)
- Emotional (spreading rumours or excluding a child from a friendship group)
- **Online bullying through Social Media**

As a school we support children to be caring, to share and to help each other, which we believe is the best way of preventing bullying.

Statutory Duty of Schools

Headteachers have a legal duty to draw up procedures to prevent bullying among pupils and to bring these procedures to the attention of staff, parents and pupils.

Whole School Preventative Approach

We use a range of whole school strategies to support appropriate behaviour:

- We demonstrate respect to each other and to pupils, modelling appropriate behavior throughout the school day
- We monitor children's well-being and take prompt action where there are concerns
- We encourage pupils to play happily together using play materials

Implementation

The following steps may be taken:

- If bullying is reported or suspected then the pupils are encouraged to tell a member of staff straight away.
- This member of staff will discuss the situation with the pupils involved.
- If appropriate, the Headteacher will interview all concerned and will keep a record of the situation.

- Class teachers are kept informed and will monitor to ensure that the situation is not repeated.
- Parents may be informed.
- Sanctions will be used according to the severity of the situation.

What should parents/carers do about bullying?

- Discuss with their child what happened, encouraging the child to see the situation from all perspectives
- Contact the school to discuss any concerns
- Monitor their child's use of the internet and mobile phones to ensure that they are safe

This policy has been amended in response to Keeping Children Safe in Education - September 2016 (added in March 2017)

Approved by the Governing Body

Signed:

Date:

Review Date: November 2022