

Old Dalby Church of England Primary School



Anti-Bullying Policy

Approved date: Dec 2008

Review frequency: annually

Reviewed: Dec. 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2018

Statement of Intent

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils and staff so that they can learn and work in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying is anti-social behaviour and affects everyone; it is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

What Is Bullying?

Bullying is the use of deliberately hurtful behaviour repeated over a period of time. Bullying is meant to be hurtful. It can be both direct (i.e. physical and /or verbal) or indirect (i.e. social exclusion, spreading rumours).

Bullying may be unwitting but the effect on the victim remains the same

Bullying can be:

- 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 or biphobic -because of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality
- Verbal - name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- Cyber - all areas of internet, such as email , internet chat and social networking sites (i.e. Face Book), Mobile threats by text messaging & calls. Misuse of associated technology , i.e. camera & video facilities
- Transphobic – because or, or focussing on the issue of gender identity

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:

- doesn't want to go on the school bus
- changes their usual routine
- is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
- becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence
- 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.
- has dinner or other monies continually "lost"
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- 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 should be investigated.

Principles

- All allegations of bullying will be carefully investigated.
- Pupils, parents and staff will be encouraged to talk openly about the issue.
- Pupils will be actively encouraged to report bullying.
- As part of the curriculum, greater understanding of bullying in all its forms will be developed.
- Children will be taught strategies to help them deal with any bullying situations they may encounter.
- Staff will respond calmly and consistently to allegations of incidences of bullying.
- The school will protect and support all parties until the issues are resolved.
- This policy applies to all members of the school community.

Prevention

- The whole ethos of the school is designed to provide a safe, secure 'family atmosphere'. Examples of specific systems and practices to prevent bullying happening include;

1. Curriculum approaches – direct through;

- Core subjects where appropriate
- PSHE (SEAL Programme)
- Class council
- Anti Bullying week
- Safer Internet week
- Anti – racist curriculum
- Inclusion days

2. Curriculum approaches – indirect through;

- Recognising and celebrating diversity of achievement, identity and culture in all fields
- Reinforcing high self esteem, minimising low self esteem
- Teaching styles which challenge racist, sexist, homophobic, biphobic or transphobic remarks

3. Structural through

- Sufficient supervision throughout the school day
- Allocation of 'buddies' and play leaders
- Provision of a 'Friendship Bench'
- Home / school agreement (partnership book)
- Publicising the policy
- Zero-tolerance from staff

Implementation

1. If bullying is reported or suspected the incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff who has been approached
2. If bullying persists or is deemed serious it will be referred to the Headteacher who will gather evidence and a clear account of the incidents which will be recorded and retained.
3. Perpetrators of bullying will be dealt with in line with Behaviour Policy.
4. In serious cases parents will be informed and will be asked to discuss the problem.
5. In the case of racist, sexist, homophobic, biphobic or transphobic bullying, an anonymous report is also made to governors.

Strategy

Tell

If you are being bullied **TELL** a teacher, **TELL** an adult, **TELL** a friend, **TELL** your family, **TELL** and keep **TELLING** until you are listened to.

Notes from pupil group work; Anti Bullying Week December 2011

What is your definition of bullying?

- *Where you are bullied every day e.g. name calling, teasing, bossing people about.*
- *Constantly picking on them everyday*
- *When someone is nasty to you constantly.*
- *Where someone constantly is mean to you and teases you or hurts your feelings.*
- *Constantly doing something mean.*
- *Something that's consistent and mean, e.g. verbal abuse.*
- *Is someone who lowers your self esteem and confidence?*
- *A bully makes you feel bad about yourself and lack self esteem.*
- *Someone who is constantly picking on someone else and is hurting their feelings*
- *Someone who is not confident in themselves and picks on someone else that looks weak to make themselves feel powerful by making the other persons self esteem go down.*

What 3 rights should everyone have when they come to school?

- *Confidence, Self-esteem, Feel safe*
- *Feeling safe, Feeling ready to learn and to have fun learning*
- *Confidence, Support, Friends*
- *Safety, Respect, Kindness*
- *Respect, safety,, confidence*
- *Confidence, self esteem, Happiness*
- *To have someone to talk to. To be able to feel safe, To have someone to play with*
- *Being able to speak to people we trust. To have trustworthy and loyal friends. To be able to be happy during lessons and playtimes.*
- *Safety all around school to and from school. To be ok with sharing problems with members of school staff and friends. To be able to share our thoughts and feelings*
- *To be part of our community, To be recognised by everyone, to be safe*

What support strategies should be available to people who think they are being bullied

- *Teacher to talk to. A friend, Headteacher*
- *Teacher to talk to bully, Friends to help you*
- *Speak to a teacher, friends to talk to.*
- *Teachers, Grown ups/adults, friends, relatives, family*
- *Teachers, parents, friends*
- *A person that they can go to in school for help.*
- *A adult in school*
- *A bench where people can make new friends*
- *Anti bullying season to tell people how to deal with bully's' e.g. be confident*

What 3 consequences should be put in place for people who bully others?

- *Expulsion Suspension Miss breaks*
- *To not have their break time, extra homework, letter to parents*
- *No friends! In trouble with teachers, no support*
- *Teacher to have a private talk with them, letter to parents*

- Make them go through a school court room, Make them help the school cleaner
- 5 weeks play time detentions
- A room where bullies can sit and calm down and where an adult can talk to the bully and understand them. The victim can talk to an adult to understand how the victim feels.
- Tidy the classrooms, litter pick, listen to how the victim feels.
- Show the bully respect so you can find out why they did it. Make the bully talk to their victim.



