

Hopedale School

Preventing Bullying

REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS

PART 2: Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

PART 3: Welfare, Health and safety

To be read in conjunction with:

Safeguarding Policy

Reviewed: 2nd April 2017, 17th April 2018

1) Objectives of this Policy

Preventing Bullying Policy, outlines what we will do to prevent and tackle bullying.

2) Our community:

- discusses, monitors and reviews our preventing bullying policy on a regular basis
- supports staff to promote positive relationships and identify and tackle bullying appropriately
- ensures that pupils are aware that all bullying concerns will be dealt with sensitively and effectively; that pupils feel safe to learn; and that pupils abide by the preventing bullying policy
- reports back to parents/carers regarding their concerns on bullying and deals promptly with complaints. Parents/ carers in turn work with the school to uphold the preventing bullying policy
- seeks to learn from good anti-bullying practice elsewhere and utilises support from other relevant organisations when appropriate¹.

3) Definition of bullying

Bullying is “**Behaviour by an individual or a group, usually repeated over time that intentionally hurts another individual either physically or emotionally**”.

Bullying can include: name calling, taunting, mocking, making offensive comments,; kicking; hitting; taking belongings; inappropriate text messaging and electronic messaging (including through web-sites, Social Networking sites and Instant Messaging); sending offensive or degrading images by phone or via the internet; producing offensive graffiti; gossiping; excluding people from groups and spreading hurtful and untruthful rumours.²

4) Forms of bullying covered by this Policy

Bullying can happen to anyone. This policy covers all types of bullying including:

- bullying related to race, religion or culture
- bullying related to special educational needs
- bullying related to appearance or health conditions
- bullying related to sexual orientation

¹ Adapted from Bullying – A Charter for Action, DCSF

² Adapted from Safe to Learn, Embedding anti-bullying work in schools, DCSF, 2007

- bullying of young carers or looked after children or otherwise related to home circumstances
- sexist or sexual bullying
- cyber bullying

5) Preventing, identifying and responding to bullying

We will:

- work with staff and outside agencies to identify all forms of prejudice-driven bullying
- actively provide systematic opportunities to develop pupils' social and emotional skills, including their resilience
- consider all opportunities for addressing bullying including through the curriculum, through displays, reflection sessions, circle time, peer support and the School Council
- use the a PSHE programme which strengthens anti-bullying within the school curriculum
- train all staff to identify bullying and follow school policy and procedures on bullying
- actively create "safe spaces" for vulnerable children and young people

6) Involvement of pupils

We will:

- regularly canvas children and young people's views on the extent and nature of bullying
- ensure pupils know how to express worries and anxieties about bullying
- ensure all pupils are aware of the range of sanctions which may be applied against those engaging in bullying
- involve pupils in anti-bullying campaigns
- publicise the details of helplines and websites
- offer support to pupils who have been bullied
- work with pupils who have been bullying in order to address the problems they have

7) Liaison with parents and carers

We will:

- ensure that parents / carers know whom to contact if they are worried about bullying
- ensure parents know about our complaints procedure and how to use it effectively
- work with parents and the local community to address issues beyond the school gates that give rise to bullying

8) Links with other policies and practices

This Policy links with a number of other policies, practices and action plans including:

Behaviour Policy

Safeguarding and Promoting the Welfare of Children Policy

9) Monitoring & review, policy into practice

We will review this Policy at least once every year as well as if incidents occur that suggest the need for review. The school uses the guidance by the DCSF* and the Anti-Bullying Alliance** to inform its action planning to prevent and tackle bullying.

10) Responsibilities

This Policy only works if it ensures that the whole school community understands that bullying is not tolerated and understands the steps that will be taken to both prevent and respond to bullying.

It is the responsibility of:

- Senior Management to take a lead role in monitoring and reviewing this policy.
- Principal, Senior Managers, Teaching and Non-Teaching staff to be aware of this policy and implement it accordingly.
- The Headteacher to communicate the policy to the school community.
- Pupils and parents/carers to abide by the policy.

** DCSF Guidance "Safe to Learn: Embedding anti-bullying work in schools"*

<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/wholeschool/behaviour/tacklingbullying/safetolearn/>

***Anti Bullying Alliance guidance*

http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/Page.asp?originx_4237co_4721421398769u17h_2007627412x