



# Hillside Junior School

## ANTI BULLYING POLICY 2024-25

**POLICY DETAILS:**

**Last Review:** June 2024

**Next Review:** June 2025

Hillside Junior School will tackle all forms of bullying; we are committed to developing an anti-bullying culture of children and adults.

### **Definition**

Bullying can be defined 'as behaviour by an individual or a group, repeated over time that intentionally hurts another either physically or emotionally'. (DFE Preventing and Tackling Bullying) To do this, the bully exercises some form of power over the victim. Both the power and the bullying actions can be difficult to recognise as bullying is often subtle and kept hidden from adults.

### **Forms and Types of Bullying**

There is no clear image of bullying behaviour or of a bully type. Some children tend to use threats of violence or actual physical intimidation, while others might prefer verbal malice, exclusion of the victim or the setting of others against their chosen victim. Cyber bullying is another form either by using the internet or mobile phones.

- \* Bullying related to physical appearance
- \* Bullying of young carers, children in care or otherwise related to home circumstances
- \* Bullying related to physical/mental health conditions
- \* Physical bullying
- \* Emotional bullying
- \* Sexual bullying
- \* Bullying via technology (cyberbullying)
- \* Bullying related to race, religion, beliefs, ethnicity, nationality or culture.

### **Recognising bullies**

- \* Bullies may have assertive, aggressive attitudes over which they exercise little control.
- \* Bullies may lack empathy; they find it hard to imagine what the victim feels.
- \* Bullies may lack guilt; they rationalise that the victim either 'started it' in the first place, or somehow 'deserves' the bullying treatment.

### **Dealing with bullying incidents**

When dealing with bullying incidents we should:

- \* Listen carefully to any child's complaint and take any incident or report seriously.
- \* Take charge yet remain calm; reacting emotionally is likely to add to the bullies enjoyment and give the bully greater control of the situation.
- \* Take action as quickly as possible.
- \* Decide who are the pupils involved and whether any action needs to be public or private.
- \* Reassure the victim, so they don't feel inadequate or foolish.
- \* Offer the victim concrete advice and support.
- \* Make it absolutely clear to the bully that their behaviour is unacceptable.
- \* Encourage the bully to see the victim's point of view and how to change their own behaviour with relevant support.
- \* Explain clearly the consequence of the action without reacting aggressively or punitively as this might give the hidden message that it is all right to bully if you have the power.
- \* Be vigilant in watching out for aggressive behaviour in class and at break times, in order that a situation doesn't get out of hand and so that potential bullying can be recognised and avoided.
- \* When dealing with any bullying or cyberbullying incident the class teacher and the Senior Leadership Team should be informed through CPOMs.
- \* Follow up with the child to ensure that there have been no repeat incidents that they may not have reported.
- \* Parents and carers should be informed

Sanctions should follow the School's Behaviour policy.

### **Cyberbullying**

Cyber bullying is any form of bullying which takes place online. Children are not allowed their phones with them in the school day. Children who come by themselves to school may bring their phones and hand them into the office.

The school has the right under [Government legislation](#) to search a child and their possessions and to confiscate their electronic device if the school thinks it may have been used for bullying.

The school will always inform parents of cases of cyberbullying as these acts usually occur out of school hours. Any misuse of the schools' technology equipment may have the child banned from using the school's technology equipment.

### **Learning**

Relevant issues will be addressed in the curriculum especially through R.E, P.S.H.E. and assemblies. Police are invited in to talk to Yr. 6 pupils about online behaviour. By being able to discuss their problem we hope to minimise its incidence and its effects at Hillside. Children will be involved in making posters and videos to promote friendships and support in order to combat bullying.

### **Adults**

Bullying can take place by adults towards other adults. Any member of staff has the right to report any incident of bullying to the headteacher or Chair of Governors.

Related Policies

Behaviour Policy

Agreed by Governors

Curriculum C'tee June 24

To be reviewed June 25

Link Governor: Mrs Joy Mason