



LEAVESDEN GREEN JMI SCHOOL

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Spring 2017

1. Introduction

Bullying is deliberate and hurtful behaviour usually repeated over a period of time where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. (Working together; Safeguarding children Oct 06)

The three main types of bullying are:

- Physical - hitting, kicking, taking belongings
- Verbal - name calling, taunting, racist or homophobic remarks. Negative comments regarding appearance or accent
- Emotional - spreading unkind stories, unwanted harassment, excluding someone from social groups

Our school ethos is based on mutual respect, trust, caring and consideration for others. Such an ethos encourages co-operative, caring behaviour. Bullying of any kind is totally unacceptable in our school and will never be ignored.

The Equality Act 2010 requires all schools (as public bodies) to have due regard to the need to;

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited in the act
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

Bullying is wrong and damages children. We therefore do all we can to prevent it by developing a school ethos in which bullying is regarded as unacceptable.

Cyberbullying

This includes the use of all electronic devices to cause hurt and upset as identified above. It can include emailing, texting, online gaming or the use of social websites. As the majority of incidents take place outside of school we are dependent upon any incidences being reported to us with printed evidence so that we can follow this up effectively as we do as a school take all instances of proven bullying seriously. We will also support and advise parents in contacting any agencies to report anti social behaviour/bullying.

2. Aims and objectives

We aim to produce a safe and secure environment where everyone feels safe.

This policy aims to produce a consistent school response to any bullying incidents that may occur.

We aim to make all those connected with the school aware of our opposition to bullying, and we make clear each person's responsibilities with regard to any bullying in our school.

Strategies for dealing with bullying incidents

If a child thinks they are being bullied, we wish it to be reported immediately to the class teacher or other appropriate adult they feel they can approach, either by children, parents or staff. The report will be listened to, taken seriously and appropriate enquiries made. If a case of bullying is confirmed, parents of both parties will be informed and the outcome of the enquiries will be made known to all those involved. All incidents are recorded and kept in the Head's Office.

Any child who has been found to have bullied others will be dealt with promptly.

3. The role of governors

The governing body supports the head teacher in all attempts to eliminate bullying from our school. This policy statement makes it very clear that the governing body does not allow bullying to take place in our school, and that any incidents of bullying that do occur are taken very seriously and dealt with appropriately.

The governing body monitors the incidents of bullying that occur, and reviews the effectiveness of the school policy regularly. The governors require the head teacher to keep accurate records of all incidents of bullying and to report to the governors on request about the effectiveness of school anti-bullying strategies.

The governing body responds within ten days to any request from a parent to investigate incidents where parents believe their child is being bullied. In all cases, the governing body notifies the head teacher and asks him/her to conduct an investigation into the case and to report back to a representative of the governing body.

4. The role of the head teacher

It is the responsibility of the head teacher to implement the school anti-bullying strategy and to ensure that all staff (both teaching and non-teaching) are aware of the school policy and know how to deal with incidents of bullying. The head teacher reports to the governing body about the effectiveness of the anti-bullying policy on request.

The head teacher ensures that all children know that bullying is wrong.

The head teacher ensures that all staff receive sufficient training to be equipped to deal with all incidents of bullying.

The head teacher sets the school climate of mutual support and praise for success, so making bullying less likely. When children feel they are valued and belong to a friendly and welcoming school, bullying is far less likely to be part of their behaviour.

5. The role of the teacher

Teachers in our school take all forms of bullying seriously, and intervene to prevent incidents from taking place. They contribute to the school anti-bullying log book records of all incidents that happen in their class and that they are aware of in the school. Any bullying should be reported to the Head Teacher to investigate.

We keep an anti-bullying logbook in the head teacher's office where all incidents of bullying that occur are recorded, either at school, near the school or on the children's way home or to school. If any adult witnesses an act of bullying, they should ensure that the head teacher records the event in the logbook.

If, as teachers, we become aware of any bullying taking place between members of a class, we deal with the issue immediately. Using restorative practice, we spend time talking to the child who has been bullying: we explain why the action of the child was wrong, and we endeavour to help the child change their behaviour in future. We then invite the child's parents into the school to discuss the situation. In more extreme cases, for example where these initial discussions have proven ineffective, the head teacher may contact external support agencies.

Teachers routinely attend training, which enables them to become equipped to deal with incidents of bullying and behaviour management.

6. The role of children

We aim to establish a climate and ethos where the children are able to report any bullying and to feel that their experiences will be taken seriously.

The children also have the opportunity within circle time and PSHE lessons to raise and to discuss any appropriate issues.

7. The role of parents

Parents who are concerned that their child might be being bullied, or who suspect that their child may be the perpetrator of bullying, should contact their child's class teacher immediately.

Parents have a responsibility to support the school's anti-bullying policy and to actively encourage their child to be a positive member of the school. If their concerns include reference to any texting or social website then copies of all conversations are essential for school to investigate the incident thoroughly.

8. Measures to help prevent bullying;

- ✓ Restorative practice permeates all practice
- ✓ Quiet/reflection area in playground
- ✓ Increased playground activities and involvement in play by MSA's at lunchtime
- ✓ Use of Y6 Play leaders
- ✓ Children taught how to be assertive rather than aggressive
- ✓ Parents to monitor access and use of internet and mobile phones
- ✓ Regular discussion through circle time
- ✓ Reflective time in assembly
- ✓ MSA and LSA training to ensure a consistent approach
- ✓ Whole school dedicated focus on bullying, for example during the National Anti bullying week
- ✓ Parent information evening around safer management of the internet at home
- ✓ E-Safety reminders in newsletters (at least termly)
- ✓ Restorative Justice discussion facilitated by an adult

9. Monitoring and review

This policy is monitored on ongoing basis by the head teacher, who reports to governors about the effectiveness of the policy on request. This anti-bullying policy is the governors' responsibility and is reviewed annually.

Review date: Spring 2017

Next review date: Spring 2018