



Chalk Ridge Primary School

Policy for Anti-Bullying:

Agreed and adopted: September 2017
Reviewed: September 2018
Reviewed: September 2021
Next review September 2024

Statement of Intent

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our children and adults so that they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. If bullying does occur, all pupils should be able to tell somebody and know that incidents will be dealt with quickly and effectively. All children know that bullying is unacceptable and know that they can tell someone.

What Is Bullying?

Bullying may be defined as any deliberately hurtful behaviour, usually but not exclusively repeated over a period of time, which intentionally hurts another pupil or group physically or emotionally.

Bullying can be:

- Teasing and name calling
- Physical pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence.
- Racist bullying *
- Unwanted sexual physical contact or sexually abusive comments.
- Homophobic language focusing on the issue of sexuality.
- Verbal name-calling, derogatory sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing.
- All areas of cyber bullying such as the misuse of social media, email and mobile messaging services and telephone calls.
- Misuse of associated technology, i.e. camera and video facilities

*Racist bullying is:

Any hostile or offensive action against people because of their skin colour, cultural or religious background or ethnic origin.

It can include:

- Physical, verbal or emotional bullying
- Insulting or degrading comments, name calling, gestures, taunts, insults or 'jokes.'
- Offensive graffiti
- Humiliating, excluding, tormenting, ridiculing or threatening behaviour.
- Making fun of the customs, music, accent or dress of anyone from a different culture.

- Refusal to work with or co-operate with others because they are from a different culture.

Where and when might bullying happen in our school?

We acknowledge that it is possible for bullying to happen at any time and in an area of school.

Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying?

Bullying is really hurtful and something that makes people very sad. It can change our personalities and who we are. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect and everyone has the responsibility to respect others in school. Those who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving. Bullying must be dealt with quickly so that it doesn't become worse.

If we have bullying our school will not be the type of place we want it to be. Everyone needs to feel safe and happy otherwise they will not do the best that they possibly can. Schools have a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

Objectives of this Policy

- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- All governors and teaching and non-teaching staff should know what the school policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported.
- All pupils and parents should know what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying happens.
- As a school we take bullying seriously. Pupils and parents should know that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Bullying will not be tolerated.
- We need to know that bullying is wrong and what to do about it.

Signs and Symptoms

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that they are being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and that they should investigate if a child:

- is frightened of walking to or from school
- doesn't want to go to school by communal means (on the school / public bus or walking bus)
- begs to be driven to school
- changes their usual routine
- is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
- fakes illness or in any other way begins to truant
- becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence
- starts stammering
- attempts or threatens suicide or runs away
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares

- feels ill in the morning
- begins to do less well 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 (to pay bully)
- has dinner or other monies continually "lost"
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- comes home starving (money / lunch has been stolen)
- becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- is bullying other children or siblings
- stops eating
- is frightened to say what's wrong
- cries spontaneously or becomes aggressive at home.
- gives improbable excuses for any of the above
- is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone
- is nervous and jumpy when a cyber-message is received
- does not seem to have the same friends they used to without making new friends.

These signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated

Procedures

1. Report bullying incidents to staff
2. In cases of serious bullying, or any bullying of a racist, or physical nature the incidents will be recorded, if possible, by the children who have been involved in the incident. These records will be examined to determine what is actually happening.
3. In serious cases parents should be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem.
4. If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted.
5. The school will report incidences of racial bullying in accordance with the 'Guidelines for Reporting and Recording Bullying and Racist Incidents in Schools' (February 2010)
6. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly.
7. An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) to change their behaviour.

Outcomes

- 1) The bully (bullies) will be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences may take place and sometimes the bully may be punished in school.
- 2) In serious cases exclusion will be considered

3) If possible, the pupils will be reconciled

4) After the incident / incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

5) The Headteacher must be informed of every incidence of bullying.

Prevention

Anti-bullying discussion and awareness will take place throughout citizenship and SMSC planning and will be a focus for assemblies during anti-bullying week.

The KIDSCAPE website offers practical guidance for children, teachers and parents.

<https://www.kidscape.org.uk/advice/>

Appropriate activities to support teachers, and children may include:

- o writing a set of school rules
- o signing a behaviour contract
- o writing stories or poems or drawing pictures about bullying
- o reading stories about bullying or having them read to a class or assembly
- o making up role-plays (or using KIDSCAPE role-plays)
- o having discussions about bullying and why it matters
- o lessons that include themes about relationships, getting on and falling out and other themes around self –esteem.

We can check that this is working by:

- Talking with children and staff
- Annual parental survey from parents