

**WHITNASH PRIMARY SCHOOL**

‘Learning, growing and succeeding together’

# Anti-bullying Policy



## Statement of Intent

At Whitnash Primary we are committed to ensuring that our children learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without the fear of being bullied. Bullying is anti-social behavior and has a negative impact on those involved; it is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. We are a 'TELLING' school. This means that ANYONE who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell a member of staff. If bullying does occur, we encourage the children to tell someone so that we can deal with it immediately.

## What is Bullying?

Bullying is deliberate hurtful behavior, repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. It can be of a physical, emotional/relational, verbal, racist, sexual, homophobic, special education need, disability or cyber nature.

## Signs and Symptoms

A child may indicate that he or she is being bullied by changes in their behaviour, adults should be aware of these possible signs and they should investigate if a child:

- Is unwilling to go to school and feels ill in the morning
- Becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence
- Starts stammering
- Cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- Begins to do poorly in school work
- Comes home with clothes torn or books damaged
- Has possessions that are damaged or "go missing"
- Asks for money or starts to steal money (to pay bully)
- Has dinner or other monies continually "lost"
- Has unexplained cuts or bruises
- Becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable/change in typical behaviour or personality
- Begins bullying other children or siblings
- Stops eating or change in eating habits
- Is frightened to say what's wrong
- Afraid to be left alone

## Responding to Bullying

- If bullying is suspected or reported, the incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff who has been approached.
- A clear account of the incident will be recorded and given to the head teacher.
- The Headteacher will interview all concerned and will record the incident
- Class Teachers and Teaching Assistants will be kept informed and will be asked to monitor the situation.
- The school will document incidents and the actions on CPOMS (our in school monitoring system).

## **Support for children who have been bullied**

- Parents will be kept informed
- An immediate opportunity to discuss the experience with a member of staff of their choice will be offered
- The child will be reassured
- Continuous support from staff will be offered
- Work will be done to restore their self-esteem and confidence

## **Support for children who have bullied**

- What has happened will be discussed
- The wrong doing and need to change will be made clear
- Parents will be informed to help change the attitude and behavior of the child.

## **Outcomes**

The bully/bullies will be asked to genuinely apologise. Depending on circumstances other sanctions may take place

- In serious cases, suspension or even exclusion may be considered
- If possible the children will be reconciled
- After the incident/s have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored by the adults involved to ensure that repeated bullying does not take place
- A record of bullying incidents will be kept

## **Disciplinary Action**

The following disciplinary steps can be taken:

- Official warnings to cease offending
- Internal Exclusion from certain areas of the school premises
- Possible Fixed-term exclusion in serious cases
- Possible Permanent exclusion in extreme cases

## **Prevention**

Within the curriculum the school will raise the awareness of the nature of bullying.

We will:

- Use whole school PSHE resources
- Implement national initiatives e.g. Anti Bullying Week, Cyber Safety week
- Make reference to the school rules
- Values Assemblies and specific assemblies relating to bullying awareness
- Display and continued sharing of school Rights – Right to learn, Right to feel safe and be safe at all times, Right to respect.
- Use teaching and learning activities focused on personal and social education
- Use external agencies e.g. drama performances, guest speakers

- Actively liaise with secondary schools
- E Safety Awareness and E Safety through our Computing Curriculum
- Protection Behaviour Awareness as part of our PSHE curriculum
- Worry boxes
- Liaison with the School Council
- School displays and pupil advisory leaflet.

This policy can be read in conjunction with the school's Safeguarding Policy.

**Date:** September 2018

**Date for review:** September 2019