



St. Andrew's Primary School Anti-Bullying Policy

Approved by: N James - Headteacher
J Waine - Chair of Governors

Last reviewed on: September 2023

Next review due by: September 2024 – to be reviewed annually by school staff, school council and school Governors.

Statement of Intent

St. Andrew's Primary School is a learning community where all children are encouraged to see themselves as learners and participate in their own learning, within and beyond the school. We offer a caring, sharing environment where all children are valued. The development of maturity and self-esteem are paramount to providing the best learning environment. This policy outlines the school's views on bullying in line with the school's Behaviour Policy.

Aims

This policy applies to all adults and children within school and within all aspects of school life. Everyone at St. Andrew's Primary School has the right;

- To learn and play in a safe and secure environment, free from aggression and abuse.
- To express their attitudes and feelings constructively and have these respected by others.
- To have an uninterrupted education.
- To have personal property respected.

Everyone at St. Andrew's Primary School has the responsibility;

- To behave acceptably in all situations.
- To accept the consequences of their actions.
- To be polite and co-operative with everyone respecting their rights and feelings.
- To respect public property and other children's personal property.

Definition

Bullying is an anti-social behaviour and affects everyone; it is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. We agree that bullying is usually **deliberately** hurtful behaviour, repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. The main types of bullying are:

- physical (hitting, kicking, theft)
- emotional (being unfriendly, tormenting, excluding)
- Discrimination and stereotyping relating to SEN and disability
- Racist (racial taunts, graffiti, gestures)
- Sexual (unwanted physical contact or abusive comments)
- Homophobic (focussing on sexuality)
- Verbal (name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours)
- Cyber (using gaming communications, text messages, social media)

Signs of bullying

Physical: unexplained bruises, scratches/ cuts, missing belongings, damaged clothes or school work, loss of appetite, stomach aches, headaches.

Emotional: losing interest in school, withdrawn, secretive, unusual shows of temper, mood swings, tearfulness, high levels of anxiety, lack of confidence.

Behavioural: asking to be taken to school, taking longer to get home, 'losing' more items than usual, sudden changes in behaviour and mood, concentration difficulties, truancy.

Responding to bullying

All school staff must be alert to the signs of bullying and act promptly and firmly against it in accordance with the school policy.

Pupils who have been bullied are supported by;

- The opportunity to discuss the experience with a member of staff of their choice
- Reassurance
- Support to restore self-esteem and confidence

Pupils who are bullying will be helped by;

- Discussing what happened
- Discovering why they became involved
- Establishing the wrongdoing
- Informing parents or guardians to help change the attitude of the pupil
- An Individual Behaviour Plan or risk assessment being completed.

Staff are expected to adhere to the following procedures;

- If bullying is suspected or reported to an adult, the incident will be dealt with immediately or at an agreed time
- A clear account of the incident will be recorded on CPOMS with pupils or parents and a notification will be automatically sent to the head teacher
- Class teachers and parents will be informed
- Sanctions will be used as appropriate in consultation with all parties following the flow chart of procedures

Parents are expected to;

- Help their children behave properly
- Work co-operatively with teacher and child in assisting the child's learning and in building positive attitudes towards learning and school
- Instil in their children a respect for others, and others property, and to help develop a positive feeling about themselves
- Talk in confidence to the child's teacher or the Headteacher

See Appendix 1: Procedures for dealing with allegations of bullying for details and stages of responses

Strategies for the prevention and reduction of bullying

Positive action is taken to prevent bullying through PSHCE lessons and cross-curricular learning opportunities such as events, activities and assemblies spread throughout the school year. The school council meet on a monthly basis to raise and discuss any concerns regarding bullying in confidence with the Headteacher. Staff meet weekly to discuss any concerns around children within school. School operates an open-door policy for parents where they may raise any concerns at any time.

Playground equipment is available to encourage suitable playtime activities.

Appendix 1. Procedures for dealing with allegations of bullying

