

St Paul's Catholic Primary School

Anti - Bullying Policy

We meet the needs of our children through:

Planning opportunities that build upon and extend children's knowledge, experience and interests, and develop self esteem.

Using a wide range of teaching strategies based on children's learning needs:

Providing a wide range of opportunities to motivate and support children to help them to learn effectively:

Providing a safe and supportive learning environment in which the contribution of all children is valued.

Using resources which reflect diversity and are free from discrimination and stereotyping.

Planning challenging activities for children whose ability and understanding are in advance of their peers.

Monitoring children's progress and taking action to provide support as necessary.

Definition

Definitions are different and individuals have different experiences; we consider bullying to be:

" repetitive, willful or persistent behaviour by one or more people, which damages or hurts others physically or emotionally, leaving the victim feeling defenceless."

Bullying is a subjective experience and can take many forms, making it extremely difficult to define. Children, young people and adults can instigate bullying. The nature of bullying is changing and evolving as technology develops.

Bullying is harmful to all involved, not just the bullied, and can lead to self-doubt, lack of confidence, low self-esteem, depression, anxiety, self-harm and sometimes even suicide.

Bullying generally fits into one of two categories: emotionally or physically harmful behaviour. This includes:

Name-calling; taunting; mocking; making offensive comments; kicking; hitting; pushing; taking belongings; cyber-bullying (eg text messaging, emailing); gossiping; excluding people from groups; discriminatory comments, racist bullying; and spreading hurtful and untruthful rumours.

It is a child's right to feel safe at school and parents expect it. The ethos of our Catholic school encourages children to care for each other and to regard bullying as unacceptable.

Aims and objectives

- We aim, as a school, to produce a safe and secure environment where all can learn without fear or anxiety.
- This policy aims to make sure that all those responsible for the welfare of our children are aware of the school's opposition to all forms of bullying.
- When an incident of bullying is reported all staff should be made aware of the situation so that they can take appropriate action should there be any further

incidents.

- All reported incidents of bullying will be treated seriously and investigated. Firm action will be taken against perpetrators of bullying.
- We aim to support all victims of bullying and to provide within our school a climate of trust and respect for all.
- Our aim is to make sure that all children are aware of the school's opposition to bullying and what they can do to if they witness any incidents.

Strategies to combat bullying.

Through the school mission statement, R.E. programme, SEAL work, circle time, classroom rules and assemblies children will be made aware of the seriousness in which all incidents of bullying are regarded. Class teachers will make their own records of any bullying in the classroom or playground, supported by Teaching Assistants.

Midday assistants will report incidents to the class teacher and serious incidents to the head teacher. The head teacher will be informed if the behaviour is repeated.

Children who bully will be made aware of the seriousness of their actions and appropriate sanctions will be applied. In cases of serious or persistent bullying the head teacher will inform parents of both the victim and the perpetrator.

If a pupil persists in bullying they will be placed on the Additional Needs register. The BLIS Team and Educational Psychologist will be asked for advice.

Good behaviour is rewarded and applauded by encouragement, praise, and rewards.

Roles and Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the Head teacher and Governors to implement the Anti-Bullying policy 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. It is important to remember that all staff, pupils and parents have an active part to play in the maintenance of this policy.