

# Anti-Bullying Policy

## November 2015



Signed (Chair of Governors).....  
Signed (Head teacher).....  
Date.....  
Review Date.....

# *Latchford St James Cof E Primary School*

## *Anti-Bullying Policy*

### **Statement of Intent**

At Latchford St James CofE Primary School we are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils so 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 and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a TELLING school. This means that *anyone* who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff, a friend, a school councillor, or parent who then informs the headteacher.

### **What Is Bullying?**

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

Bullying can be:

- Emotional being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures)
- Physical pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Racist racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Sexual unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
- Homophobic because of, or focussing on, the issue of sexuality
- Verbal name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- Cyber All areas of internet, such as email & internet chat room misuse  
Mobile threats by text messaging & calls  
Misuse of associated technology, i.e. camera & video facilities

### **Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying?**

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect. Pupils who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving.

Our school aims to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

School Councillors say, "If someone tells that they are being bullied we know that it will be stopped straightaway".

### **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 arises.

- As a school we take bullying seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Bullying will not be tolerated.

### **Signs and Symptoms**

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that he or she is 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
- begs to be driven to school
- changes their usual routine
- is unwilling to go to school
- 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 poorly 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
- gives improbable excuses for any of the above
- is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone
- is nervous & jumpy when a cyber message is received

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

### **Procedures**

1. All children will be made aware that they need to report all incidents that have caused them upset to a member of staff.
2. All members of staff to log reported incidents on the incident form using the appropriate code. See appendix 1.
3. SLT will regularly monitor the forms to see if any repeated patterns occur.
4. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying will be investigated in order for the bullying to be stopped quickly
5. In serious cases parents should be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem and go through our Anti-bullying policy.
6. If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted

## **Outcomes**

- 1) The bully (bullies) will be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences may take place such as isolation, detention, fixed term exclusion from playing out.
- 2) An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour.
- 3) In very serious cases, suspension or even exclusion will be considered
- 4) After the incident / incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

## **Prevention**

We will use KIDSCAPE methods and SEAL (Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning) materials for helping children to prevent bullying. As and when appropriate, these may include:

- Class and school rules
- signing a home school agreement
- writing stories or poems or drawing pictures about bullying
- reading stories about bullying or having them read to a class or assembly
- making up role-plays and drama activities to explore bullying issues
- circle time activities and having discussions about bullying and why it matters
- a programme of activities for anti-bullying week
- e-safety policy

This policy has been produced using the Kidscape model policy. The School Council have been fully involved in formulating this policy and have consulted other pupils about its contents and application.

Our School Councillors say, “Our school is a happy and safe place where bullying is unacceptable”.

Policy updated and agreed on November 2015

Review Autumn Term 2016

## Appendix A

See document Incident Concern Log