



Federation of  
Wallisdean Infant School (including Wallisdean Pre-School) and Wallisdean Junior School

## **Anti-Bullying Policy**

### **STATEMENT OF INTENT:**

We are committed to providing a happy, caring, friendly and safe learning environment for all of our pupils and staff. The children are taught about British Values, attitudes and skills which foster mutual respect and allow children to learn in a secure environment. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. Everyone within our school has the right to feel safe, valued, protected and to be treated with respect and dignity. It is everyone's responsibility to prevent bullying from happening. If bullying does occur, all members of the school community should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively.

### **What Is bullying?**

Bullying is defined as deliberately hurtful behaviour, repeated over a period of time by the same perpetrator(s), where there is an imbalance of power and where it is difficult for those who are being bullied to defend themselves. Often children have disagreements or are physical in their play, which leads to conflict – but this is not bullying. Our school curriculum aims to help children to understand the difference and to equip them with the necessary skills and strategies to deal with bullying and conflict situations.

### **The main types of bullying are:**

- Emotional - being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (eg hiding books, threatening gestures)
- Physical - pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Verbal - name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- Prejudice - taunts, graffiti, gestures which make reference to a person's race, sexuality (homophobic, transphobic, sexist), religion, gender, social situation, academic ability or disability
- Sexual - unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
- Cyber – all areas of the internet, eg use of email, texts, calls or social media, misuse of associated technology eg cameras and videos.

### **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. We have a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

### **Aims and objectives of the Anti-Bullying Policy:**

- All children, staff, parents and governors should understand what bullying is
- All staff and governors should know what the school's Anti-Bullying Policy is and follow it when bullying is reported
- All pupils and parents should be aware of the procedures to follow in the school's Anti-Bullying Policy
- As a school we take bullying very seriously. Pupils and parents know that they will be fully supported when bullying is reported
- Bullying will not be tolerated
- Parents will be involved at an early stage in any bullying allegation
- Support from external agencies will be requested if necessary

### **Signs to look out for:**

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that he/she is being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs

- Changes to usual routine or behaviour
- Repeatedly unwilling to go to school
- Withdrawn, anxious, lacking in confidence
- Attempt or threaten self-harm
- Cries at night, has nightmares, feels ill in the morning
- Begins to do poorly in school work
- Possessions damaged or 'go missing'
- Unexplained cuts or bruises
- Bullying others
- Eating issues
- Frightened to say what's wrong or gives improbable excuses for the above

These signs and behaviours could also indicate other difficulties and should always be investigated.

### **Children are encouraged to:**

- Say no
- Stay calm
- Remind the person about the school rules
- Walk away and seek a trusted friend
- Report the incident to an adult straight away

### **Prevention of bullying**

We will use the following strategies to help children to prevent bullying:

- Reviewing the school rules through circle times and assemblies
- Discussing issues in Picture News and P4C assemblies and lessons
- Individual behaviour plans
- Discussing stories, poems or drawing pictures about bullying
- Curriculum planning and delivery at an age-appropriate level
- Specific lessons relating to issues which have arisen

### **If bullying occurs:**

1. Children are encouraged to openly approach a member of staff to discuss a problem
2. In the case of an initial allegation, a record will be kept to monitor a pattern of any repeated incidents and trigger behaviours. At this level, the class teacher will arrange any monitoring and inform other members of staff.
3. In serious, undisputed cases, both parties' parents will be informed immediately and will be asked to come into school for separate meetings with relevant staff, including school Leaders. They will discuss the problem, agree action points and any consequences. A follow-up monitoring period will be set to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.
4. Both parties will be offered time to discuss their emotions and school strategies to ensure they are confident to deal with any future event. Additional support will be sought as necessary.
5. In serious cases, internal and external exclusions may be considered and if necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted.

**Linked policies:** Behaviour, Safeguarding, PSHE, e-Safety, IT Acceptable User, Confidentiality and Equality policies.

Adopted: September 2018: Reviewed: Summer 2021 – Next review date: Summer 2024



## Anti-Bullying Policy

### What is bullying?

Bullying is when one or more people deliberately hurt others several times. This could be using words or actions.



### Different kinds of bullying include:

Emotional - being unkind, excluding somebody

Physical - pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence

Verbal - name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing

Prejudice – anything unkind that is about things like a person’s race, religion, gender, social situation, academic ability or disability

Cyber – all areas of the internet and technology including phones, texts, emails, social media, cameras, videos

*If you treat someone badly in any of these ways, you may be breaking the law.*

### Why is it important?



Bullying is bad for everyone: the victim, anyone who sees it and the bully. Everyone deserves to be treated with respect. We want people to stay safe and healthy, to have fun, to take part and do well.

### What should I do?



Talk to a trusted friend or adult.

If you see something, or a friend tells you something that makes you feel worried, tell an adult straight away, so that they can help.

### How will adults help?

Adults in our school will prevent bullying. If it does happen, the adults in charge will challenge anyone who is bullying. Adults will help those who have been bullied to feel safe and will help those who have bullied to change their behaviour.

**Bullying is NOT OK**

**Tell a trusted friend or adult**

**Together, we can STOP it**

