



TANY'S DELL COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Statement of Intent

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils so that they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Children learn about the *Tany's Dell Way* and are encouraged to follow our 'Code of Conduct' which incorporates this. Our child friendly version of this policy is called *Who Cares? We Do!* 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.

What is Bullying?

Bullying is an action that can hurt someone on the inside or on the outside. It is done on purpose, it's not an accident. (If someone is hurt during a game by accident this is not bullying, but if every time they played the game they were hurt by the same person or people, this would be bullying). Bullying happens more than once, the bully/s do it over and over again and they chip away a person's self-esteem and confidence. Nobody deserves to be bullied. **EVER**

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, abusing family members
- *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

Everybody has the right to be treated with respect - Bullying hurts. Pupils who are bullying others need to learn different ways of behaving. Schools have a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

Objectives of this Policy

- All adults and pupils should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- All adults in school should know what the school policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported.
- All pupils and parents/carers 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/carers 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
- doesn't want to go on the school / public bus
- changes their usual routine
- is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
- 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
- flinching away from other children
- reluctance to put themselves forward during the choosing of groups / group 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. Report bullying incidents to staff
2. Training for pupils who may be victims of bullying (*I don't like it when you ... STOP IT!*)
3. In cases of serious bullying, the incidents will be recorded by staff
4. In serious / ongoing cases parents should be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem
5. If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted
6. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly
7. An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour
8. Bullies may be issued with a behaviour support plan (see behaviour policy).

Outcomes

- 1) The bully (bullies) may be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences may take place.
- 2) In serious cases, suspension or even exclusion will be considered
- 3) If possible, the pupils will be reconciled
- 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

Methods for helping children to prevent bullying will be used as and when appropriate, these may include:

- writing a set of school rules
- signing the children's promise
- 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
- having discussions about bullying and why it matters

Visit the Kidscape website www.kidscape.org.uk for further support, links and advice. We would like to thank Kidscape for their advice in writing this policy.