

# **Holy Cross Catholic Primary School**



## **Anti Bullying Policy 2020-21**

## **Rationale**

Holy Cross Catholic Primary School is completely opposed to all forms of bullying and will not tolerate it under any circumstances. All members of our school community have the right to learn, work and play in a secure and caring environment; free from harm. They also have a responsibility to contribute in whatever way they can to prevent and report bullying behaviour.

## **Definition**

At Holy Cross Catholic Primary School we discuss what bullying is, as well as incidents that we would not describe as bullying. We discuss this with all pupils through assemblies, PSHE lessons, pupil interviews (with each class) and school council meetings.

**Bullying is behaviour that is usually repeated over a period of time that makes a person feel unhappy, uncomfortable or unsafe.**

## **Forms of bullying**

- **Verbal** – name calling, tormenting, threats, Racism, Homophobia, Transphobia, of a sexual nature or regarding a person's disability.
- **Physical** – Hitting, kicking, spitting, pulling, pushing, biting
- **Indirect** – Spreading rumours, glaring and staring, isolating them from games, writing graffiti notes, refusing to talk to a person. This can cause emotional and social harm.
- **Cyber/On-line** – bullying through social networking, online gaming, text or direct messaging, photo changing software, emails, prank telephone calls, video hosting sites

Bullying can be based on any of the following things:

- Race (racist bullying)
- Religion or belief
- Culture or class
- Gender (sexist bullying)
- Sexual orientation (homophobic or biphobic bullying)
- Gender identity
- Special Educational Needs or Disability (SEND)
- Appearance or health conditions
- Related to home or other personal situation

## **Consultation and Participation Process**

We will continue to develop our anti-bullying work by:

- Participating in National Anti-Bullying week
- Awareness raising programmes – through SEAL and outside agencies.
- Monitoring evaluation and review (ensuring consequences for bullies are effective and consistent)
- Obtaining the views of school council
- Sharing best practise through school networks

## **Links with other school/organisation policies**

This policy links closely to the following policies:

- E.Safety,
- Positive Behaviour and Relationships,
- Safeguarding,
- Equality.

The schools' behaviour policy has clear guidance on acceptable behaviour in school. Any 'bullying' behaviours have a clear consequence. All classes display the school charter which is regularly discussed and used to encourage positive relationships.

Rights	Responsibilities
<p>We all have the right:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be safe</li> <li>• To be happy</li> <li>• To be treated with respect</li> <li>• To learn.</li> </ul>	<p>We all have responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be respectful to other people and things.</li> <li>• To listen and be ready to learn.</li> <li>• To be honest, sensible and kind.</li> <li>• To be helpful to other people</li> </ul>

### **The responsibilities of our staff**

We expect our staff to:

- Promote safety and positive relationships
- Be alert to signs of distress and other possible indications of bullying
- Discuss bullying openly with all classes, including the effects of bullying
- Listen and take time to talk to children who disclose bullying, take what they say seriously and investigate the situation
- Report suspected bullying (to either the Inclusion Manager, deputy head teacher or in their absence the head teacher).
- Display anti-bullying messages throughout the school
- Seek support from outside agencies if required
- Be a good role model
- Show all pupils respect and treat all equally and fairly
- Be consistent with consequences for bullies, by following the school behaviour policy.
- Communicate effectively with all involved in working with the child, including parents, even if you have little to report
- Boost children's self-esteem by praise, compliments and encouragement
- Safeguard all pupils who report bullying
- Use systems in place e.g. School buddies, Peer mentors, Restorative approaches
- Keep school yards highly supervised with staff strategically placed

### **The responsibilities of our pupils**

We expect our pupils to:

- Not suffer in silence, think of five people you can turn to at home or at school if you feel you are being bullied (five finger friends)
- Be a good friend to all who need one.
- Follow the schools positive behaviour policies at all times.
- Ensure that they respect the rights of others to be safe, happy and free from harm at school.
- Walk away from dangerous situations or places
- Never join in with bullying behaviour
- Not watch bullying behaviour you must walk away and report it
- Tell the truth if asked by a staff member

### **The responsibility of parents/carers**

We expect our parents and carers to:

- Inform the school of any suspected bullying, even if it is not their child

- Co-operate with the school and work together to prevent any long term damage from bullying
- Promote safety at Holy Cross Catholic Primary School
- Advise children not to retaliate through violence towards any situation
- Encourage their child to report bullying to a member of staff
- Be sympathetic and supportive towards their child and reassure them
- If your child has been accused of bullying others, work in cooperation with the school

### **The responsibility of governors:**

We expect our governors to:

- Support the staff and head teacher in all attempts to prevent bullying from our school.
- Monitor and review the effectiveness of the anti-bullying policy.

### **Preventative measures**

At Holy Cross Catholic Primary School we believe that preventing and raising awareness of bullying is essential in keeping bullying incidents to a minimum. Through assemblies and PSHE lessons children are given regular opportunities to discuss bullying and its impact on others. Children will also discuss incidents that we would not describe as bullying, such as two friends falling out or a one- off argument. Pupils are encouraged to tell an adult if they are concerned that someone in school is being bullied.

### **Strategies**

1. We will use our behaviour policy effectively to promote good behaviour so that there is an ethos where bullying is unacceptable.
2. All will be expected to be vigilant and to intervene immediately and effectively if any bullying is observed or reported.
3. Learners will be encouraged to report bullying and when they do so they will be listened to and taken seriously.
4. Every allegation of bullying will be investigated and followed up.
5. Any victim of bullying will be well-protected immediately and in the future.
6. Any allegations of bullying will be reported to the headteacher.
7. PSHE and circle time will be used to discuss bullying and to ensure that all are aware that bullying is never acceptable and that the victim must always report it to parents, staff or friends.
8. We will use the school's behaviour policy to reinforce this anti-bullying policy.
9. Stereotypes are challenged by staff and children across the school.
10. Learners and their parents will be made aware of this policy.
11. Children will be trained as peer mediators and play leaders to support all pupils. Including those who may have been the target of bullying.
12. We will take part in national initiatives such as 'Anti-Bullying' week and 'Safer Internet' week.
13. Difference and diversity will be celebrated across the school through displays, books and images. The whole school will participate in events such as Anti-Bullying Week, Safer Internet Day, Black History Month.
14. Each class will develop a display of the school charter in their classroom and this will be revisited regularly through class circle time.
15. All children will be taught about their rights and responsibilities towards each other.

### **Procedures for dealing with incidents of bullying**

- Staff should follow the anti-bullying procedures flowchart to ensure that all appropriate procedures for support and consequences are followed. See appendix.
- All reported incident of bullying must be recorded and passed to the Inclusion Manager, deputy head teacher or in their absence; the head teacher. These will be logged in school incident file.
- Children should follow the child friendly guidance. This will be regularly discussed with the children in their classes. See appendix
- Parents should follow the anti-bullying procedures flowchart. See appendix

## **Consequences**

- Consequences will be decided upon in line with our behaviour policy.
- Support will be offered to both parties.
- It is important that children who display 'bullying' behaviour are worked with to try and help them to empathise and understand how they have made the other person feel.

## **Bullying outside of school premises**

Section 89(5) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 gives Head teachers the power to regulate pupils' conduct when they are not on school premises and are not under the lawful control or charge of a member of school staff. This legislation does not apply to independent schools.

By making good connections throughout the schools' community with local residents, transport providers, Community Police officers, local businesses, park rangers etc, Head Teachers can gather evidence of bullying incidents outside of school.

## **Monitoring and reviewing**

This policy will be monitored regularly by the SLT and the school governors. The effectiveness of this policy will be reviewed annually by the governors.

**Review Date: September 2020.**