

St.Peter's C.E. Primary School



Anti-bullying statement

Updated: October 2020

To be reviewed: October 2021

This policy was approved by the Headteacher on 15th October 2020



Hope, Honesty, Compassion



St. Peter's CE Primary School
Anti-bullying statement

Introduction

As a school we take bullying and its impact seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that known incidents of bullying will be responded to.

Objectives

- 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.
- Children should feel safe to tell someone if they are being bullied.

What is bullying?

Bullying is unacceptable behaviour used by an individual or group, usually repeated over time that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally. This could include name calling, making threats, hitting, ignoring somebody, spreading rumours, abusing somebody online or via text message.

Prejudice bullying

The following types of bullying are motivated by a prejudice against groups of people:

- Transphobic: people who are transgender
- Homophobic/Biphobic: people who are lesbian, gay or bisexual
- Disability
- Racist

Technological/Cyber Bullying

Users need to be 16 to use WhatsApp. Nearly all other social media services require users to be at least 13 years of age to access and use their services. This includes Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter, Instagram, Musical.ly and Skype.

The best way that parents can prevent online bullying is to follow the age restrictions stipulated by social media services.

Anti-bullying education

A variety of methods are used to support children in preventing and understanding the consequences of bullying, for instance through Collective Worship, Personal Social and Health Education, Anti-bullying week and E-Safety lessons.

How a pupil can report bullying

If a child feels that they are being bullied then there are several options that they are encouraged to choose from:

- Tell a friend
- Tell a member of staff
- Tell a parent or adult at home

How a parent/carer can report bullying

Parents can report their concerns to any member of staff. However, parents may wish to report their concern to:

1. The child's class teacher or a teaching assistant who works in your child's class. There is always a member of staff from your child's class on the door leading to your child's class in the mornings and at the end of the school day.
2. Contacting the school office, either by phone, in person or by email: stpeters@bury.gov.uk

Further advice for parents

Parents should not attempt to deal with the problem directly by speaking to the child whom they think may be behaving inappropriately towards their child or by speaking to their parents (including via social media). Nor should parents encourage their child to respond to the bullying with similar behaviour themselves, e.g. by hurting the perpetrator or calling them names.

By bringing the issue to the attention of the school, parents can be assured that dealing with the matter themselves is not necessary.

If a parent is dissatisfied with the way an incident or incidents are handled, they should follow the school complaints procedure.

How will reports of bullying be investigated and recorded

The alleged bullying will be investigated by the class teacher or a senior member of staff.

The member of staff investigating will record any evidence of bullying that they have found.

What action will be taken regarding the perpetrator if evidence of bullying is found

If evidence of bullying is found, the school behaviour policy will be followed (to read the School Behaviour Policy, see the 'Policies' section of the school website: <http://www.stpetersprimarybury.co.uk/>)

What action would be considered to support the victim of bullying

This depends on the needs of the victim. Often the victim will work with a member of staff to build up their peer group so that they can be supported by other children. Staff may also undertake activities to improve the child's self-esteem and/or assertiveness in dealing with difficult situations, for instance through a pastoral group intervention.

The school will take all reasonable steps to communicate with parents of the victim. However it should be noted that the school is unable to inform the parents of the victim the details of the action it has taken to address the actions of the perpetrator. This is for confidentiality reasons, although the behaviour policy provides parents with information on what action may be taken.

What action would be considered to improve the behaviour of the perpetrator

As well as the consequences detailed in the school behaviour policy, the school will investigate the reasons for the perpetrator's bullying behaviour and take steps to address those reasons. This could involve: involvement in a pastoral intervention group; work with the family as part of our 'Early Help' strategy; providing additional support for a child if they have, or may have special educational needs. We will also consider discussing the child's issues at the local SEMH partnership meeting (Social, Emotional and Mental Health partnership), subject to the consent of the parent.