

Rothwell Primary School Anti-Bullying Policy

Statement of Intent

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils, so that they enjoy coming to school and can learn in a secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. If bullying does occur, all pupils should be able to tell someone 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 staff.

Definition of Bullying

The staff and governors of Rothwell Primary School accept the definition of bullying as being deliberate, persistent, intimidating behaviour that causes physical or psychological distress to the victim.

Bullying can be:

- Emotional - being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting
- Physical - pushing, kicking, hitting or any use of violence; unwanted physical contact
- Racist - including racist name calling
- Homophobic - because of, or focusing on the issue of sexuality
- Verbal - name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours and teasing
- Cyber-bullying - by e-mail, social networking sites or text

Objectives of this Policy

- All governors, staff, parents and pupils should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- All governors and 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.

Procedures

1. All incidents of bullying should be reported to a member of staff. These incidents will always be taken seriously and investigated. If the matter cannot be resolved quickly, it will be passed on to the learning mentor or a member of the Senior Leadership team as appropriate.
2. Children are made aware through assemblies and PSHCE lessons that they can approach any member of staff for help. Three members of staff are designated as bully buddies and all children are aware who they are and that they can be approached at any time for help with bullying issues. There is a worry box on the main corridor which is checked every day and any issues dealt with promptly by the learning mentor.

3. In serious cases, parents will be informed and asked to come into a meeting to discuss the problem. It is anticipated that parents of the children involved will be seen separately, in order to allow the meetings to be objective and preserve family privacy if there are issues.
4. All instances of bullying are recorded by the learning mentor. This includes any reported instances of homophobic language in school.
5. Through discussion and mediation, the bully or bullies will be helped to change their behaviour. Sanctions may be used if there is clear evidence that bullying has taken place.
6. After the incident has been investigated and dealt with, monitoring by staff will take place to ensure that there is no recurrence of the bullying behaviour.
7. New staff and pupils will be made aware of the policy to ensure consistency.

Cyber Bullying

As with any form of bullying, we take cyber bullying very seriously.

Cyber bullying can be:

- Text messaging
- Picture/video clip bullying via mobile phone cameras
- Phone calls via mobile phone
- E-mails
- Chat room bullying
- Bullying via social networking sites

If incidents of cyber bullying are reported to staff in school, they should be investigated and parents made aware of the situation, with sanctions put in place as appropriate.

Monitoring

Monitoring by the headteacher and senior staff will identify progress, showing whether the policy is effective. Records such as discussions with children, learning mentor records of incidents, parent questionnaires and pupil questionnaires are all used for monitoring.

Prevention

We use the following methods to help children prevent bullying:

- School code of conduct
- Class rules, behaviour policy and reward scheme
- Assemblies
- Anti-bullying week
- General bullying issues discussed at school council meetings
- Circle time/PSHCE lessons
- Lessons on cyber-bullying

- Class discussions about bullying
- Worry box
- Bully buddies
- An inclusive curriculum, which promotes mutual respect
- Training for parents on internet safety
- Fit-bods at lunchtime
- A 'quiet' room for children to go at lunchtime
- Activities at lunchtime encouraged by lunchtime staff, for those who find this time difficult

Reviewed May 2015