Hopedale

Bluebell School

Heather Field School

Lavender Field School

Poppy Field School

Cherry Tree School

PREVENTING BULLYING POLICY

REVIEWED – 28TH APRIL 23   RATIFIED 26TH MAY 23

The key underpinning statutory documents to this policy are:

Preventing and tackling bullying (publishing.service.gov.uk)
Keeping children safe in education 2022 (publishing.service.gov.uk)

1) **Objectives of this Policy**
Preventing Bullying Policy, outlines what we will do to prevent and tackle bullying alongside an emphasis on our commitment to a zero tolerance approach to all forms of peer to peer abuse/harm and child to child unkindness.

2) **Our community:**
- discusses, monitors and reviews our preventing bullying policy on a regular basis
- supports staff to promote positive relationships and identify and tackle bullying appropriately
- ensures that pupils are aware that all bullying concerns will be dealt with sensitively and effectively; that pupils feel safe to learn; and that pupils abide by the preventing bullying policy
- reports back to parents/carers regarding their concerns on bullying and deals promptly with complaints. Parents/ carers in turn work with the school to uphold the preventing bullying policy
- seeks to learn from good anti-bullying practice elsewhere and utilises support from other relevant organisations when appropriate[1].

3) **Definition of bullying**

There is no legal definition of Bullying but it can be defined as:

"Behaviour that is repeated and intended to hurt someone either physically or emotionally and often aimed at certain groups eg, because of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or any other characteristic of 'difference'. It can take many forms such as physical assault, teasing, making threats, name calling, cyber bullying (eg via social media) and reflects a deliberate and the on-going misuse of power.

4) **Forms of bullying covered by this Policy**
Bullying can happen to anyone. This policy covers all types of bullying including:
- bullying related to race, religion or culture
- bullying related to special educational needs
- bullying related to appearance or health conditions
- bullying related to sexual orientation
- bullying of young carers or looked after children or otherwise related to home circumstances
- sexual harassment
- cyber bullying

5) **Preventing, identifying and responding to bullying**
We will:

- work with staff and outside agencies to identify all forms of prejudice-driven bullying
- actively provide systematic opportunities to develop pupils' social and emotional skills, including their resilience
- consider all opportunities for addressing bullying including through the curriculum, through displays, reflection sessions, circle time, peer support and the School Council
- use the a PSHE programme which strengthens anti-bullying within the school curriculum
- train all staff to identify bullying and follow school policy and procedures on bullying
- actively create "safe spaces" for vulnerable children and young people

6) Involvement of pupils
We will:
- regularly canvas children and young people's views on the extent and nature of bullying
- ensure pupils know how to express worries and anxieties about bullying
- ensure all pupils are aware of the range of sanctions which may be applied against those engaging in bullying
- involve pupils in anti-bullying campaigns
- publicise the details of helplines and websites
- offer support to pupils who have been bullied
- work with pupils who have been bullying in order to address the problems they have

7) Liaison with parents and carers
We will:
- ensure that parents / carers know whom to contact if they are worried about bullying
- ensure parents know about our complaints procedure and how to use it effectively
- work with parents and the local community to address issues beyond the school gates that give rise to bullying

8) Links with other policies and practices
This Policy directly links with a number of other school's policies, including:

- **The Behaviour Policy**
- **The Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy (school specific)**

9) Monitoring & review, policy into practice
We will review this Policy at least once every year as well as in response to any incidents that might occur and invite the need for an interim further review. The school uses guidance by the DfE and the Anti-Bullying Alliance to inform its action planning to prevent and tackle bullying.

10) Responsibilities

This Policy only works effectively if it ensures that the whole school community understands that bullying is not tolerated and understands the steps that will be taken to both prevent and respond to bullying.
It is the responsibility of:
- Senior Management to take a lead role in monitoring and reviewing this policy.
- Senior Managers, Teaching and Non-Teaching staff to be aware of this policy and implement it accordingly.
- The Head of School to communicate the policy to the school community.
- Pupils and parents/carers to be aware of and abide by the policy.

Useful resources
Anti-Bullying Policies | Anti-Bullying Alliance
Advice on your school's anti-bullying policy - Family Lives
Our anti-bullying resources for schools are now available to download (swgfl.org.uk)
Bullying at school: The law - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)