



# Calder Vale St. John's CE Primary School Scorton CE Primary School **Anti-bully Policy**



Policy Agreed by Staff: February 2016  
Policy Agreed by Governors: February 2016  
Review Date: February 2018

## **Statement of Intent**

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. 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. We are a *TELLING* school. This means that *anyone* who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff.

## **Definition of Bullying**

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person which is unprovoked, repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

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
- 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

## **Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying?**

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect. Pupils who are bullying 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 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.
- As a school we take bullying seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Bullying will not be tolerated.

### **The school will deal with bullying by:**

- Ensuring that the whole school understands what bullying means, including what a bully is, what a victim is and what a bystander is.
- Making clear that a zero tolerance approach to bullying is in place in school.
- Encouraging children to report incidents without feeling they are telling tales. Stressing the role of the Bystander – the person who can intervene and help the situation. Research shows that bullying will stop in less than 10 seconds nearly 60% of the time when peers intervene. (Pepler: <http://kidproofblog.com/?p=1097> ). We encourage the bystander to get involved as opposed to watching and colluding any bullying they witness.
- Taking incidents seriously, investigating and if necessary, acting upon them quickly and fairly.
- Having a behaviour policy for pupils and staff setting out clear guidelines for managing pupil behaviour both in the playground and in the classroom.
- Rewarding positive behaviour and relationships as outlined in our behaviour policy and through individual class reward systems.
- Providing opportunities to raise awareness of bullying issues and providing a whole school focus for anti-bullying activities. This will be through whole school events (such as Anti-bullying week) and through worship and PSHE/SEAL teaching.
- Develop children's own resilience through a PSHE/SEAL/Citizenship curriculum. This may involve exploring feelings through role play and viewing bullying situations from both sides.
- Providing a structured, well-staffed playground environment with a variety of activities/equipment for pupils to play with during school breaks.

### **When dealing with bullying staff will:**

- Respond sensitively
- Investigate the incident ensuring any bullying has stopped.
- Record all incidents of bullying on incident forms and keep them in school behaviour file.
- In the first instance meet with the bullies and victims individually.
- If appropriate facilitate a meeting between the bully and victim as an opportunity for the bully to understand how their actions have affected the life of the victim.
- Contact the parents of both the victim and bully to discuss the problem.
- In more serious cases, or if a pupil is repeatedly bullying, the Headteacher who is the Senior Designated Person responsible for child protection who will support the investigation and actions that need to follow.
- If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted

### **Outcomes**

Punishing bullies does not end bullying. At Calder Vale and Scorton CE Primary Schools we stress that it is the bullying behaviour, rather than the person doing the bullying, that is not acceptable.

- The bully (bullies) will be encouraged to understand how their actions have caused distress and anxiety. They may be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences may take place.
- Bullies will be disciplined in line with the school's Behaviour policy; this may involve the following sanctions: Verbal/Rule Reminder, missed playtimes and in serious cases, suspension or even exclusion will be considered.
- We will ensure all actions are fully communicated to the relevant parties and recorded.
- If possible, the pupils will be reconciled
- After the incident / incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

## **Prevention**

We will use KIDSCAPE methods for helping children to prevent bullying. As and when appropriate, these may include:

- writing a set of school rules
- signing a behaviour contract
- 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 (or using KIDSCAPE role-plays)
- having discussions about bullying and why it matters

## **Further Guidance for Children**

- Do not bully other people – it is not kind
- If you see someone being bullied – help them or tell an adult
- If you are being bullied TELL SOMEONE!
- Speak to your teacher – don't exaggerate, be honest and stick to the facts. Write it down or draw a picture if it helps you explain. If it does not stop – tell the teacher again.

## **Further Guidance for Parents**

**If your child tells you they are being bullied:**

- Listen to your child.
- Try not to overreact.
- Tell your child that bullying exists and it's not their fault.
- Check all the facts – is it bullying or friendship problems, which may resolve naturally?
- Talk about possible strategies for your child to use – try the websites listed at the end of the policy.
- Encourage your child to tell a teacher.
- If the situation is serious, contact the class teacher yourself.

## **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 bus
- begs to be driven to school
- 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
- 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

**HELP FROM OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS:**

Advisory Centre for Education (ACE)	0808 800 5793
Children's Legal Centre	0845 345 4345
KIDSCAPE Parents Helpline (Mon-Fri, 10-4)	0845 1 205 204
Parentline Plus	0808 800 2222
Youth Access	020 8772 9900

[www.bullying.co.uk](http://www.bullying.co.uk)

[www.bbc.co.uk/education/archive/bully](http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/archive/bully)

[www.childline.co.uk](http://www.childline.co.uk)

[www.antibullying.net](http://www.antibullying.net)

[www.kidscape.org.uk](http://www.kidscape.org.uk)