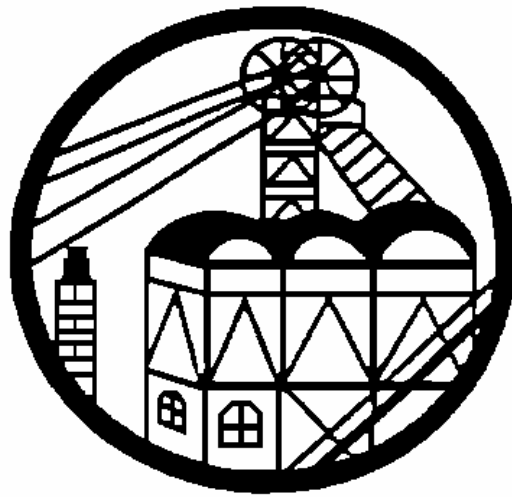


Burradon Community Primary School

Anti-Bullying Policy



November 2026

Mrs Claire Liddle

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Rationale

At Burradon Community Primary School we are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all 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, a buddy or their parents to ensure anti-bullying systems within school are triggered.

This document outlines how we make this possible at Burradon Community Primary.

"Bullying and prejudicial behaviour are not tolerated. Any incidents are addressed quickly and effectively. Leaders promote a culture where discrimination, harassment or abuse is never acceptable."
(OFSTED June 2026)

We hold the North Tyneside Anti-Bullying Award for the work we do to prevent bullying. We also hold Thrive Ambassadors Awards for Excellence in the Environment and Relationships.

Definitions of bullying

Bullying is deliberately hurtful behaviour that is repeated over a period of time, making it difficult for the person concerned to defend themselves.

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

The school works hard to ensure that all children know the difference between bullying and simply "falling out". Children are also taught to not be passive bystanders and to take action such as telling a trusted adult.

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 including online bullying.

Actions to tackle bullying

Prevention is better than cure so at Burradon Community Primary we are vigilant for signs of bullying. We have a rigorous PSHCE curriculum which focuses on keeping themselves and others safe. Children are supported to develop the skills that are the building blocks of positive relationships. They are taught about healthy and respectful relationships as well as boundaries and consent.

We always take reports of bullying seriously. We use the curriculum wherever possible to reinforce the ethos of the school and to help pupils develop strategies to combat bullying type behaviour.

- We take part in Anti-Bullying week each November and do a lot of work in classes which includes role plays, stories, poems and discussion.
- Anti-Bullying displays and information about where children can get help.
- A child friendly Anti-Bullying Policy and charter has been produced by the School Council and has been shared with pupil and parents/carers
- Buddies help each playtime. They are trained to spot signs of bullying and to seek help if they are concerned.
- A worry box or worry monster in each class.
- Daily Check in for all children which is monitored by the class teacher.
- Anti-Bullying websites such as Childline and Kidscape are on the website for the children to access at home or school under the Anti-Bullying section. [Burradon Community Primary School - Anti-Bullying](#)
- An up-to-date Positive Behaviour Management Policy and E-Safety Policy underpins this policy.
- School Rules and a class charter.

- Focus on online relationships, internet safety and harms and physical and mental wellbeing.
- Thrive Behaviour strategies are used across the school.
- Thrive whole class plans, group plans and individual plans to support children across the school.

Objectives of this Policy

- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents / carers 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 / carers 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 / carers should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Bullying will not be tolerated in person or online.

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 / public 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
- self-harm

These signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated. Children with SEND, additional needs or victims of abuse can be more at risk of bullying. Some pupils or students may be more at risk of harm from specific issues such as sexual violence, homophobic, biphobic or transphobic bullying or racial discrimination.

Emotional Health and Well Being

Emotional health and Wellbeing are paramount for children and staff to be happy, motivated and gain the very best out of school life. By promoting EHWP children are more engaged with their learning, concentrate and learn more effectively. Children are also more confident and have higher self-esteem. Ensuring that bullying is tackled and discussed in school is paramount throughout the year and during Anti-Bullying week. A child friendly Anti-Bullying policy and Charter are also available which is updated each year and shared with children during Anti-Bullying Week.

"Leaders have created a calm and respectful environment. Pupils feel safe because they trust the adults who care for them.
(Ofsted June 2026)

Procedures

1. The class teacher will speak to all concerned about alleged bullying privately and may seek support from SLT, Deputy Head and Headteacher. Collect evidence (staff, other pupils, parents etc).
Record on CPOMS.
2. Report bullying incident to the Deputy Head or Headteacher.
Record any further discussions on CPOMS.
3. Parents / carers of all involved in the bullying should be informed of the incident and may asked to come into a meeting to discuss the problem if this is deemed appropriate. Parents / carers should be informed that bullying can lead to exclusion.
4. The bullying incident will be monitored by class teachers and Senior Leadership Team. Other staff including lunchtime supervisors and Teaching Assistants will also be asked to monitor the situation.
5. If necessary and appropriate, police or Front Door service will be consulted. If the incident happened outside of school the parents / carers will be advised they can contact the police.

6. An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour and explore the underlying cause. Support will also be given to the child that has been bullied. Parents / carers will also be given advice and support. This could be from outside agencies such as the Local Authority.

Outcomes

- 1) The bully (bullies) will be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences may take place.
- 2) In serious cases, suspension or even exclusion will be considered. Risk assessments may also be completed.
- 3) The bully and the child that has been bullied will be supported through Thrive or referrals to other agencies as appropriate. A risk assessment may be put in place.
- 3) If possible, the pupils will be reconciled.
- 4) After the incident / incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

Bullying outside of school premises

Teachers have the power to discipline pupils for misbehaving outside the school premises "to such an extent as is reasonable". This can relate to any bullying incidents occurring anywhere off the school premises, such as on school or public transport, outside the local shops, or in a town or village centre.

Where bullying outside school is reported to school staff, it should be investigated and acted on. This may mean reporting it to the parents/carers of the child. The headteacher should also consider whether it is appropriate to notify the police. If the misbehaviour could be criminal or poses a serious threat to a member of the public, the police should always be informed.

In all cases of misbehaviour or bullying the teacher can only discipline the pupil on school premises or elsewhere when the pupil is under the lawful control of the staff member. More detailed advice on teachers' powers to discipline, including their power to punish pupils for misbehaviour that occurs outside school, is included in 'Behaviour and discipline in schools - advice for headteachers and school staff'

Child on child abuse

All staff are aware that children can abuse other children (often referred to as child-on-child abuse), and that it can happen both inside and outside of school or college and online. Staff understand the importance of challenging inappropriate behaviours between children that are abusive in nature. Downplaying certain behaviours, for example

dismissing sexual harassment as “just banter”, “just having a laugh”, “part of growing up” or “boys being boys” can lead to a culture of unacceptable behaviours, an unsafe environment for children and in worst case scenarios a culture that normalises abuse leading to children accepting it as normal and not coming forward to report it.

(Ref: Child On Child Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment Policy and Guidance)

Links with other policies

- Safeguarding Policy
- Child On Child Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment Policy and Guidance (Child on Child Abuse Policy)
- Behaviour Policy
- Reasonable Force Policy
- Relationships and Sex Education Policy
- PSHCE Policy

Useful reading and reference

- DfE Keeping Children Safe in Education (2026)
- DfE Relationships, Sex Education and Health Education (RSE) (2025) Statutory from September 2026
- Preventing and Tackling Bullying (DfE 2017)
- Use of reasonable force and other restrictive interventions in schools: Guidance for schools in England (DfE 2026)
- Guidance Behaviour and discipline in schools (DfE 2024)
- Schools' duty to promote good behaviour: Section 89 Education and Inspections Act 2006 and Education (Independent School Standards) (England) Regulations 2010
- Working together to Safeguard Children (DfE 2013) updated 2026
- The Equality Act 2010

Further Guidance

Information for parents, school and children

<https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/>

<https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/feelings-and-symptoms/bullying/>

<https://www.bullying.co.uk>

<https://www.kidscape.org.uk/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/>

