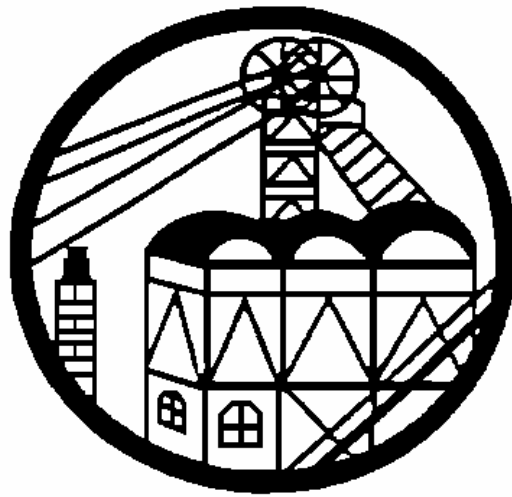


Burradon Community Primary School

Anti-Bullying Policy



November 2023

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 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, 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.

"Behaviour is good. Pupils cannot recall any bullying happening. Any falling out is dealt with by adults in school. Pupils know to shake hands with their classmate and apologise" (OFSTED March 2022)

We hold the North Tyneside Anti-Bullying Award for the work we do to prevent bullying.

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".

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 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.
- Buddies help out 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.
- 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.
<https://www.burradoncommunityprimaryschool.co.uk/page/?title=Anti%2DBullying&pid=110>
- An up-to-date Positive Behaviour Management Policy and E-Safety Policy underpins this policy.
- School Rules and a home school agreement signed by pupils, parents / carers and staff outlining expected behaviour.
- Focus on online relationships, internet safety and harms and physical and mental wellbeing from the DFE Relationships, Sex and Health Education.

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.

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.

Emotional Health and Well Being

Emotional health and Wellbeing is 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 is also available which is updated each year with the school Council and shared with children during Anti-Bullying Week.

"Pupils think highly of their teachers. They know adults keep them safe in school physically, citing fire drills as an example. Pupils also talk about how teachers care for their emotional well-being."
(Ofsted March 2022)

Procedures

1. The class teacher will speak to all concerned about alleged bullying privately and may seek support from Key Stage Lead or Deputy Head. Collect evidence (staff, other pupils, parents etc). **Record on CPOMS or incident sheet.**
2. Report bullying incident to Key Stage Lead, Deputy Head or Headteacher. **Record any further discussions on CPOMS or incident sheet.**
3. Parents / carers of all involved in the bullying should be informed of the incident and may asked to come in to 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 support the victim. 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.
- 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. The headteacher should also consider whether it is appropriate to notify the police of the action taken against a pupil. 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'

This policy should be reviewed annually.

Links with other policies

links with the whole school curriculum through the skills, knowledge and understanding that are being developed.

- Teaching and Learning Policy
- PSHCE and Citizen Policy
- Child Anti Bullying Policy
- Drug, Alcohol and tobacco Policy
- Peer on Peer Abuse Policy
- Science Policy
- RE Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Child Protection Policy

- E-safety Policy
- Relationship and Sex Education Policy

Useful reading and reference

Cyber Bullying Advice for Headteachers and School Staff (2014)

DFE Keeping Children Safe in Education (2023)

DFE Sex, Relationships and Health Education (2019)

Sexual Violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges. (DFE May 2018)

Guidance Preventing and tackling Bullying (DFE 2017)

Guidance Behaviour and discipline in schools (DFE 2016)

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 2018)

Power to tackle poor behaviour outside school

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.childnet.com/search-results/?keywords=cyberbully>

BURRADON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

