

Stephenson Way Community Primary School

Anti-Bullying Policy

1. Rationale

The school has adopted the LA policy on anti-bullying and shares its aims and objectives. More so than with any other LA policy, this is set and adapted within the ethos of the school and its aims to create a caring community.

Although written as a separate policy from the behaviour policy, this is a somewhat artificial distinction as the success of our behaviour policy and the ethos which it creates will be a major determinant on the incidence of bullying.

2. Aims

1. To ensure the safety of all children at school
2. To ensure that they do not feel threatened by staff or other children.
3. To enable the school to react quickly to any suggestions of bullying.
4. To involve parents at the earliest opportunity where there is any suggestion of bullying.
5. To protect any children who feel that they are victims.
6. To support and reform any child perceived to be a bully.
7. To be aware of the diverse ways in which children may be bullied eg: violence, name calling, exclusion, intimidation etc.

8. To be aware that bullying can occur due to racism, homophobia, sexism, or any other differences between pupils (eg height, weight, voice, hair colour, academic/sporting ability etc.).

3. Procedures

1. All allegations or suggestions of bullying should be taken seriously
2. Initial investigations should be undertaken by the class teacher and the headteacher informed.
The headteacher will take over the investigation if the allegations seem to have substance. If the allegation is made by a parent or if the allegation concerns a member of staff teaching or non teaching, the headteacher should be informed immediately.
3. In investigating alleged bullying it is as important to listen to the alleged bully as it is to listen to the alleged victim. As in all investigations, witnesses should be sought.
4. It is important to remember that bullying can take many forms and that verbal bullying, whether by children or adults, can be just as invidious as physical violence.
5. If there are strong suspicions of bullying, then the parents of both the victim and the bully should be involved as soon as possible, although initially not at the same time.
6. Sanctions against bullying will vary according to the intensity and the duration of any bullying. It must be made clear to parents and children that bullying will not be tolerated and that all children have the right to be safe at school
 - a) Should any incident of extreme violence occur, parents would be contacted immediately and the child concerned taken home.

b) In the event of continued bullying, the LA exclusion procedures would be used.

4. Responsibilities

All of the adults who work in school, whether paid staff or volunteers, have a duty of care for our children. This duty covers the way they themselves speak to and behave towards our children and also to ensuring that they are protected from any verbal or physical bullying from any other source. Any concerns should immediately be reported to the Headteacher who carries the ultimate responsibility for all pastoral care.

5. Conclusion

The fundamental purpose of this policy is to ensure just one simple fact, that...

All children have the right to be safe at school!

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Review 2014