



Anti-Bullying Policy



School: Our Lady & St Anne's Catholic Primary School

Head Teacher: Samantha Henzell

Named personnel with designated responsibility for: Anti-Bullying

Academic year	Designated Lead	Chair of Governors
2022/23	Samantha Henzell	Christine Baker

Policy review dates:

Review Date	Changes made	By whom	Date Shared
2022/23	Policy reviewed	Samantha Henzell	Dec 2022

Safeguarding Statement:



At Our Lady & St Anne's RC Primary School we respect and value all children and are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils so they can learn, in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe every pupil should be able to participate in all school activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm. This is the responsibility of every adult employed by, or invited to deliver services at Our Lady & St Anne's RC Primary School. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard all who access school and promote the welfare of all our pupils by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and bullying.

At Our Lady & St. Anne's Primary School we aim to provide a safe environment, conducive to learning, one in which children feel secure and confident.

Definition

Bullying is when someone keeps doing or saying things to try and hurt another person when they know it is upsetting that person. It can sometimes continue for weeks, months or even years if something isn't done to try and stop it.

Bullying is not.....

Rough and tumble, play-fighting or playful teasing with no intention to hurt anyone.

Bullying can include:

Hitting, kicking, punching, nipping or even pushing – this is called physical bullying.

Teasing, name calling or spreading rumours is called verbal bullying.

Ignoring someone, tormenting them, making racist remarks, or even making threatening gestures is called emotional bullying.

Bullies

- Exert power over their victims.
- Frighten others by physical aggression or psychological intimidation.
- Sometimes operate in gangs.
- Deny accusations and insist that they were just playing.

The success of an anti-bullying policy depends upon the concentrated effort of all staff, teaching and non-teaching. All staff and parents should be watchful for signs that a child is being bullied.

Telltale signs



Children or young people may:

- Be frightened of walking to or from school.
- Be unwilling to go to school and make excuses to avoid going.
- Beg to be driven to school.
- Change their route to school every day.
- Begin to do badly in their school work.
- Regularly have clothes, books or school work torn or destroyed.
- Come home starving (because their dinner money was taken)
- Become withdrawn.
- Start stammering.
- Start to act out or hit other children. (A reaction to being bullied by children or others.
- Stop eating, become obsessively clean. (A reaction to being called 'fat' or 'smelly').
- Develop stomach or headaches.
- Attempt suicide.
- Cry themselves to sleep.
- Begin wetting the bed.
- Have nightmares and call out things like "leave me alone!"
- Have unexplained bruises, scratches, cuts etc.
- Have their possessions 'go missing'.
- Ask for money or begin stealing money. (To pay off the bully).
- Continually 'lose' their pocket money.
- To refuse to say what's wrong.
- Give improbable excuses to explain any of the above.

Members of staff should:

- Talk to the child about their experience - their thoughts and feelings about this.
- Give children confidence that they will be listened to.
- Be watchful when on playground duty or in other areas where there is less supervision than in the classroom (particularly the toilet areas and quiet areas of the playground).
- Encourage the victim and the bully to discuss the problems, together if possible, to try to have empathy with each other.
- Record all instances of bullying in the school 'Bully Book'.
- Severe cases of bullying should be reported to the Headteacher who will:
 - a) Contact parents and gain their cooperation.
 - b) Support the victim and work with the bully to modify their behaviour.
 - c) Persistent and extreme cases of bullying may result in exclusion.



Additional support may be provided by:

- School Assemblies.
- School Liaison Police Officer.
- Involvement of the CAB Project (Children Against Bullying).
- Involvement of pupils in the prevention process.