

Pittington Primary School



Anti-Bullying Policy

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Linked documents	Behaviour Policy Equality Policy Special Educational Needs Policy Safeguarding Policy

Introduction

We strongly believe that our children learn best when they feel safe, secure and happy. In our school, we strive for warmth, mutual respect and clear boundaries for behaviour. Our School Rules provide clear guidance and our day to day methods are underpinned with strategies to motivate children to develop self control and consideration of others.

As a school we take bullying very seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported. **Bullying will not be tolerated.** The school will seek ways to counter the effects of bullying that may occur within school or in our local community. The ethos of our school fosters high expectations of outstanding behaviour and we will challenge any behaviour that fall below this.

This policy has been developed and implemented in consultation with children, parents/carers, governors and staff. It was written with clear reference to the Equality Act 2010 and should be read alongside our policies on Equality, Special Educational Needs, Behaviour and Safeguarding.

Pittington Primary School promotes values which reject bullying behaviour and promotes co-operative behaviour. Bullying will not be tolerated in our school.

Our Statement of Intent

Pittington Primary School is committed to providing a supportive, caring and safe environment in which all children can reach their full potential, free from the fear of being bullied. We take bullying and the impact that it can have extremely seriously. Bullying of any form is not tolerated in our school, whether carried out by a child or an adult.

We have high expectations of behaviour in our school and we consistently challenge any behaviours that do not comply with this. All members of our school community are aware of the school's position on bullying and know that if bullying is suspected or reported, then the incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff informed. A clear and accurate account of any incidents will be recorded on CPOMS. All staff will be informed so that close monitoring of the victim and perpetrator can begin.

What is Bullying?

Bullying is behaviour by an individual or group, usually repeated over time that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally. In other words, bullying at Pittington Primary School is considered to be "unacceptable behaviour which occurs several times, on purpose." Bullying can take place in the classroom, playground, toilets, on the journey to and from school, on residential trips and online.

Types of Bullying

Bullying can take many forms:

- Emotional – being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting, threatening behaviour
- Verbal – name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing, use of derogatory language
- Physical – pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Extortion – demanding money or goods with threats
- Online – use of social media, messaging, class. Misuse of associated technology, for examples, photos, videos
- Racist – racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Sexual – unwanted sexual contact, sexually abusive comments
- Homophobic or bi-phobic – bullying because of sexuality or perceived sexuality
- Transphobic – because of gender identity or perceived gender identity

Specific types of bullying

- Bullying related to race or colour, religion, belief or culture
- Bullying related to Special Education Need or Disability (SEND)

- Bullying related to appearance or health condition
- Bullying related to sexism, sexual orientation or sexual bullying
- Bullying of young carers or Looked After Children or related to home circumstance
- Bullying using electronic forms of contact (cyber bullying)

Cyber Bullying

Bullying online and any form of antisocial behaviour over the internet, mobile device or gaming technology. If your child is experiencing problems or is being cyber bullied encourage them to come to you for help. If they are uncomfortable speaking with you, tell them to speak with a trusted adult. Be sure your child knows how to report abuse or inappropriate behaviour to social networking sites.

Aims and Objectives

Every child has the right to feel safe in school, we aim:

- To ensure that children learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment, without fear of being bullied
- To demonstrate that the school takes bullying seriously and that it will not be tolerated
- To take measures to prevent all types of bullying in the school and offsite activities
- To support everyone in actions to identify and protect those who might be bullied
- To clarify for all pupils and staff that bullying is wholly and always unacceptable
- To promote an environment where children feel they can trust and tell adults if they are being bullied or know about bullying
- To promote positive attitudes in pupils
- To ensure that all staff are aware of their duty of care over those in their charge and the need to be alert to the signs of bullying
- To ensure all staff are aware of procedures

Prevention

At Pittington Colliery Primary School we use a variety of methods to prevent bullying including:

- Assembly – We regularly come together as a school to celebrate success and to enhance our development. Assemblies cover our buddy system, anti-bullying, Pride and citizenship. We also have assemblies led by our local vicar and the Police
- Buddies – Some of our children are selected and trained to assist with promoting positive behaviour on the playground and help deal with conflict resolution. Buddies are visible when outside, enabling other pupils to identify them easier, moreover Buddies are proactive in ensuring children are involved in activities.
- Playground Leaders – Playground leaders are selected and trained to implement and run activities during break and lunch time. This ensures pupils are involved in games, moreover reduces behaviour incidents and the opportunity for bullying.
- Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education & Health Education – The building blocks of healthy, respectful relationships.
- Anti-Bullying Week - Anti-Bullying Week is an annual UK event, which aims to raise awareness of bullying of children and young people, in schools and elsewhere, and to highlight ways of preventing and responding to it. Easington Colliery Primary School fully engages with this, providing a week of activities and opportunities to highlight bullying.
- Positive Relationships – Positive relationships are built and promoted throughout the school creating a caring and trusting environment – This empowers pupils to discuss problems with adults and each other
- School Council – Children are elected by their peers, they can voice pupil concerns and discuss how to improve our school for all.
- Parent Voice – Pittington Primary School has a good relationship with parents and good means of communication, however we are always looking to improve. Regular parent questionnaires are sent home for parents to rate the school. Parents comment on how school deals with certain situations including bullying, giving school the opportunity to act upon views.

- Circle time – This can be planned into the curriculum or used to address any issues a class or group may be experiencing.

Reporting and Recording Incidents

Bullying is unacceptable and will not be tolerated at Pittington Primary School. All reported incidents of bullying will be investigated and taken seriously. Any reported incident of bullying will be investigated using the following process:

- All allegations of bullying will be investigated and recorded (Bullying Log created)
- Parents will be informed of the alleged incident
- If it is found bullying has not taken place, the incident will be recorded for future reference, however for unkind or inappropriate behaviour consequences will be issued
- If it is found that bullying has occurred appropriate consequences will be issued
- Parents informed of the outcome
- Strategies will be put into place to prevent the incident from happening again
- All incidents will be recorded and monitored.

Advice to Parents

If a parent is concerned that their child is being bullied they should speak to the class teacher or a senior member of staff. They should also encourage their child to speak to an adult in school, in order to ensure issues can be addressed immediately. Children should not be encouraged to retaliate, but speak to someone they trust.

Bullying is unacceptable and we will respond promptly and effectively to any reported incidents of bullying. In our school, we believe that:

- Everyone has the right to be treated with respect
- Everyone has the right to feel happy and safe
- No one deserves to be a target of bullying
- People who bully need to learn different and more positive ways of behaving