Scalford C of E Primary School

Anti-Bullying Policy (including Cyber Bullying)
2017

REVIEWED: January 2017

Headteacher: Mrs M Waring   Chair of Governors: Mr A Cox

Please also refer to Safeguarding, E-safety and Whistleblowing policies

Signed copy in the School Office

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY (including Cyber-Bullying)

At Scalford Church of England 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 listening and telling school.** This means that *anyone* who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff.

What Is Bullying?

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting and intimidating another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

Bullying can be:
Emotional
- Being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures, etc.)
Physical
- Pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
Racist
- Racial taunts, graffiti, gestures, etc.
Sexual
- Unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
Homophobic
- Because of, or focusing on the issue of sexuality
Verbal
- Name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing, etc.
- Cyber All areas of internet, such as email & internet chat room misuse
- Telephone threats by text messaging & calls
- Misuse of associated technology, i.e. camera & video facilities

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. Research demonstrates that victims of bullying can have deteriorating levels of attainment / attendance as a direct result of bullying.

Objectives of this Policy
• That all governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents have an understanding of what bullying is.
• That all governors and teaching and non-teaching staff know what the school policy is on bullying, and accept collective responsibility for its implementation.
• That all pupils and parents know what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises.

• That as a school we take bullying seriously. Pupils and parents will be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
• That we ensure we promote a positive and safe learning environment where bullying is not tolerated.
• That we promote inclusion, tolerance, mutual respect and self-worth amongst all.

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
• changes their usual routine
• is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
• begins truanting
• 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"
• has unexplained cuts or bruises
• comes home starving (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 a mobile phone
• is nervous and jumpy when a cyber message is received

These signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated.

Procedures

1. Any pupils, parents and others need to report bullying incidents, including cyber-bullying issues, to members of teaching staff. Teachers and the Headteacher will be the persons involved with handling incidents of bullying.
2. Opportunities will be given to resolve the situation with all parties involved.
3. In cases of serious bullying, this will be recorded on an incident form.
4. In serious cases parents should be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem.
5. If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted
6. The bullying behaviour or threats will be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly.
7. An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour

Outcomes

1. The bully (bullies) will be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences may also take place depending on the individual case.
2. In serious cases, suspension or even exclusion will be considered.
3. If possible, the pupils will be reconciled.
4. After the incident(s) has/have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

Prevention

We will use a variety of methods for helping children to prevent bullying as and when they are appropriate. These will include:
• A clear set of school rules, which are referred to often (including a Scalford School Council Anti-Bullying Code, on display around the school).
• Promotion of an emotionally literate atmosphere.
• Opportunities to share feelings and have discussions about bullying and why it matters, e.g. through Circle Time, SEAL, PSHE, etc.
• Involvement in anti-bullying week activities, e.g. drawing, poems, posters, role play, etc.
• Reading stories about bullying or having them read to a class or assembly.
• Opportunities to speak to staff in private.
• Sampling of pupils' views on their understanding of what bullying is.

Reviewing the Policy

This policy will be shared with staff, parents and pupils and reviewed annually prior to Anti-Bullying Week.

HELP ORGANISATIONS:
KIDPOWER – Prevent Bullying
https://www.kidpower.org
BBC
http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/curations/anti-bullying-week