

Lydbrook Primary School
(including Robins Nursery)

Anti-Bullying Policy

Where anything is Possible

Policy Reviewed:	Annually
By:	Full Governing Body
Agreed:	December 2018
Next Review:	Autumn 2019

Statement of Intent

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 a trusted adult.

Our motto is "SPEAK OUT STAY SAFE" (following our work with the NSPCC)

What is bullying?

Bullying is hurting another person deliberately and persistently. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

What forms does bullying take?

- Name calling
- Physical
- Destroying other people's property
- Racist comments
- Spreading rumours
- Putting people down
- Saying unkind things about people's families
- Cyber bullying (text messages, mobile phones and Internet)
- Teasing about being gay (including the terms lesbian, bi-sexual, trans-gender)
- Personal remarks regarding being disabled, being linked with a sub-culture (e.g. a traveller) or any discriminatory comments regarding a person's religion

Bullying can be:

- Emotional being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, PE kits, 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

Why is it important to respond to bullying?

- To make our school a safe and happy place
- Everybody has the right to be treated with respect
- Bullying hurts.
- Bullying ruins lives
- No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. .
- So people know what to do and bullying can be dealt with
- Pupils who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving.
- The bullying can escalate if not dealt with

Schools have a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

Objectives of this policy

- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents 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 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 should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Bullying will not be tolerated.
- Everyone needs to take responsibility for bullying

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 to say what's wrong
- is frightened of walking to or from school
- doesn't want to go on the school bus
- is withdrawn or appears alone and lonely
- is not doing well in lessons
- is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
- becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence

- starts stammering
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- feels ill in the morning
- 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
- is bullying other children or siblings
- stops eating

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

What we do at Lydbrook School to prevent bullying

- Clear rules ensuring everyone feels safe
- Use of STOP – Several times on purpose
- Teachers, teaching assistants and nominated adults to talk to
- School council/Playground leaders acting as a "buddy" on the playgrounds
- Worry box
- A friendship stop
- Reflections in PSHCE and sessions
- Anti-bullying week activities
- Involvement of outside agencies e.g. the NSPCC
- Uses resources linked with the PinK curriculum

What we do if bullying is discovered

- The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly
- We will want to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour
- Report bullying incidents to trusted adults
- Playground Leaders need to be informed of any issues
- In cases of serious bullying, the incidents will be recorded by staff and the Head Teacher or Deputy Head Teacher should be informed
- In serious cases parents should be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem
- If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted
- In serious cases of bullying, suspension or even exclusion will be considered by the Head Teacher with the governors
- After the incident has been investigated, each case will be monitored by the Class Teacher and Senior Staff to make sure it is not repeated.

The policy does not stand alone and links with:-

- The PSHCE policy
- Behaviour Policy
- SRE policy
- E-safety policy

Approved by FGB - 20th December 2018

Signed: S.T. Lusted

Head Teacher

Signed: T. Roberts

Chair of Governors

Dated: 20th December 2018

This policy was reviewed and updated in November 2018

Approved by FGB - 20th December 2018