



Turves Green Primary School

Anti-Bullying Policy

May 2010
To be reviewed 2012

Anti- Bullying Policy

What is Bullying?

Bullying is any behaviour that is deliberately intended to hurt, threaten or frighten a person or group of people. It is usually unprovoked, persistent and can continue for a long period of time. It always reflects an abuse of power.

This policy applies to everyone in our school – adults, children and parents, and bullying behaviour will not be accepted from anyone, and will be treated as very serious.

Bullying behaviour can include:

- Physical aggression, such as hitting, kicking, taking or damaging possessions;
- Verbal aggression, such as name calling, threatening comments, insults, racist remarks, teasing, sending nasty notes or making nuisance calls;
- Indirect social exclusion, such as deliberately leaving someone out, ignoring someone, spreading rumours about someone or their family.

Racial, sexual or homophobic harassment involves the same kinds of behaviour directed against someone because of their cultural or ethnic identity, their gender or sexuality.

Bullying can be difficult to identify because it is often subtle, covert and rarely witnessed by adults.

Reducing incidents of Bullying

Bullying behaviour can be prevented through a combination of:

- Raising awareness of what bullying is and how it affects people;
- Emphasising the important role that bystanders play in tackling bullying and teaching pupils how to safely challenge bullying behaviour;
- Teaching pupils how to manage their relationships constructively and assertively.

These approaches have to be implemented regularly and consistently throughout the school if they are likely to be effective.

Children are well supervised at all times to reduce opportunities of incidents of bullying.

New children to our school will be made to feel welcome by continuing our informal 'buddy' system and new members of staff by our 'mentor' system.

Children are given strategies for dealing with incidents of bullying through Circle Time, Drama, Health Education, English, PSME, Peer Mediation, Religious Education and assemblies - see appendices for suggestions of strategies.

We aim to make any transitions for the children easier and less worrying in the following ways:

- Our annual Parents' Welcome Evening to introduce parents to school staff, for parents to look around the school, find out about teaching methods and to talk to the child's class teacher;
- A 'Welcome to School' booklet which fully explains daily routines and gives information about our school;
- Pre-school activity days for children to meet their class mates, teachers and classroom assistants;
- Reception class teachers visit nursery schools and make home visits.
- Children are gradually phased into full-time school;
- Reception class children have separate playtimes for a few weeks as they learn to play alongside the rest of the school.

When transferring between Key Stage One and Two, there is a Parents' Meeting to explain the changes and differences that will occur. A transition week is organised for all Key Stage One and Two children, they will have the opportunity to experience the following years curriculum and meet their new class teacher. Similarly, there will be the opportunity for children moving from Key Stage Two to Three to meet their secondary teachers and carry out transition module work.

Behaviour which will not be accepted

We do not accept the following kinds of behaviour from children, staff or parents in our school:

- Harmful physical contact, aggression or fighting;
- Stealing, extortion or vandalism;
- Verbal discrimination against disability, race, sex or religion;
- Intimidation or deliberate exclusion of others;
- Swearing, spitting or use of offensive signs.

Dealing with incident of bullying

If an incident of bullying occurs in school, these are the actions we will take:

- The victim must tell an adult immediately;
- The victim and the offender will then be spoken to individually, during which time the victim will be listened to and offered support. The offender will be listened to, asked to explain why, admit to the offence and then apologise;
- The offender will receive a warning from his or her class teacher and a suitable punishment or sanction will be given;
- The class teacher will record the incident in the class behaviour book, which is monitored by the Deputy Headteacher on a termly basis;
- The situation will be continually monitored.

- A dedicated adult to talk to any child at lunchtime, who wishes to discuss behaviour/Bullying issues.

If the incident is repeated then:

- The Deputy Headteacher will record each incident in the school Bullying Log;
- The Key Stage Co-ordinator and parents will become involved;
- The Key Stage Co-ordinator, classteacher and parents will decide on appropriate sanctions.

If the bullying continues:

- The Headteacher will speak to the child;
- The Headteacher will meet with the child and parents;
- The Headteacher and Governors may consider exclusion of the child.

Other agencies, such as the school's Educational Psychologist, the Behaviour Support Service or the Police, may also be involved.

All school staff have the status and responsibility to report incidents of misbehaviour or bullying by recording these incidents in the class behaviour book, kept outside classrooms.

LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES:

Refer to sanctions in the Behaviour Policy
School Code of Conduct