



CITY OF PLYMOUTH

Riverside Community Primary School

(Primary and Nursery)



Poole Park Road, St Budeaux Plymouth PL5 1JH Telephone 01752 365297

e-mail:admin@riverside.plymouth.sch.uk



ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Adopted by the Curriculum Committee April 2018

Three yearly review due Spring Term 2021

Signed Chair of Curriculum Committee

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Aims

The aim of the anti-bullying policy is to ensure that pupils learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied. Bullying is anti-social behaviour and affects everyone; it is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Only when all issues of bullying are addressed will pupils be able to fully benefit from the opportunities available at schools.

Bullying is defined as.

Behaviour by an individual or group, usually repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group socially, physically or emotionally.

In addition

Bullying behaviour is usually characterised by an unequal balance of power, which makes it hard for those being bullied to defend themselves.

The four main types of bullying are:

- Physical (hitting, kicking, theft)
- Verbal (name calling, racist remarks)
- Indirect (spreading rumours, excluding someone from social groups, hiding or deliberately moving possessions to cause upset eg coats).
- Cyber bullying (text messages, social networking – not only by individuals but also when using other peoples' and / or applying pressure to others to act on their behalf.

Pupils who are being bullied may show changes in behaviour, such as becoming shy and nervous, feigning illness, taking unusual absences / pattern of absences, or clinging to adults. There may be evidence of changes in work patterns, lacking concentration or truanting from school. Pupils must be encouraged to report bullying in schools.

Schools' teaching and ancillary staff must be alert to the signs of bullying and act promptly and firmly against it in accordance with school policy.

Statutory duty of schools

Head teachers have a legal duty under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 to draw up procedures to prevent bullying among pupils and to bring these procedures to the attention of staff, parents and pupils.

Implementation

Schools

The following steps may be taken when dealing with incidents:

- If bullying is suspected or reported, the incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff who has been approached (including MTAs)
- A clear account of the incident will be recorded and given to the appropriate team leader, with a copy to the headteacher
- The team leader will interview all concerned and will record the incident, with a copy to the headteacher
- Class teachers will be kept informed and if it persists the teacher will advise the appropriate team leader
- Serious or prolonged incidents will be dealt with by the headteacher

- Parents will be kept informed where appropriate
- Punitive measures will be used as appropriate and in consultation with all parties concerned
- Following an incident there may be monitoring of the pupils involved to ensure further incidents do not occur

Pupils

Pupils who have been bullied will be supported by:

- Offering an immediate opportunity to discuss the experience with a class teacher or member of staff of their choice
- Reassuring the pupil
- Offering continuous support
- Restoring self-esteem and confidence.

Pupils who have bullied will be helped by:

- discussing what happened
- discovering why the pupil became involved
- establishing the wrong doing and need to change
- Informing parents or guardians to help change the attitude of the pupil.

The following disciplinary steps can be taken:

- official warnings to cease offending
- detention
- exclusion from certain areas of school premises
- internal seclusion
- minor fixed-term exclusion
- major fixed-term exclusion
- Permanent exclusion.

Within the curriculum the school will raise the awareness of the nature of bullying through inclusion in PSHE, class circle time, assemblies and subject areas, as appropriate, in an attempt to eradicate such behaviour.

Monitoring, evaluation and review

The school will review this policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

Signed: Chair of Curriculum/Premises and Health and Safety
Committee

Date: