

Ladywood Primary School



Anti-Bullying Policy
January 2018

Introduction

Bullying is action taken by one or more children with the deliberate intention of continually hurting another child, either physically or emotionally. Bullying is persistent. Emotional bullying can be via social network sites (i.e. cyber bullying) text messages and voice mails on mobile phones as well as through verbal means such as name calling.

Aims and objectives

Bullying is wrong and damages individual children. We therefore do all we can to prevent it by developing a school ethos in which bullying is regarded as unacceptable.

As a school we aim to produce a safe and secure environment where all children can learn without anxiety.

This policy aims to produce a consistent school response to any bullying incidents that may occur.

We aim to make all those connected with the school aware of our opposition to bullying, and we make clear each person's responsibilities with regard to the eradication of bullying in our school.

Our children's rights

At Ladywood we believe that all our children have a right:

- to feel safe, secure and loved
- to be protected from bullying relating to SEN, disability, physical appearance, sexuality, race, religion and culture
- to grow up having their individuality valued and respected

The role of the Governors

The Governing body supports the Headteacher in all attempts to eliminate bullying from our school. This policy statement makes it very clear that the Governing body does not allow bullying to take place in our school and that any incidents of bullying that do occur are taken seriously and dealt with appropriately.

The role of the Headteacher

It is the responsibility of the Headteacher to implement the school anti-bullying strategy and to ensure that all staff are aware of the school policy and know how to deal with incidents of bullying. The Headteacher reports to the Governing body about the effectiveness of the anti-bullying policy on request.

The Headteacher ensures that all children know that bullying is wrong and that it is unacceptable behaviour in our school. The Headteacher draws the attention of children to this fact at suitable moments for example, if

an incident occurs, the Headteacher may decide to use assembly as a forum in which to discuss with other children why this behaviour was wrong, and why a pupil is being punished.

The Headteacher sets the school climate of mutual support and praise for success, making bullying less likely. When children feel they are important and belong to a friendly and welcoming school, bullying is far less likely to be part of their behaviour.

The role of the Teacher

Teachers in our school take all forms of bullying seriously and intervene to prevent incidents from taking place. They keep their own records of all incidents that happen in their class and that they are aware of in the school.

If teachers witness an act of bullying, they do all they can to support the child who is being bullied. If a child is being bullied over a period of time, then, after consultation with the Headteacher, the teacher informs the child's parents.

If, as teachers, we become aware of bullying taking place between members of a class, we deal with the issue immediately. This may involve counselling and support for the victim of the bullying and punishment for the child who has carried out the bullying. We spend time talking to the child who has bullied: we explain why the action of the child was wrong and we endeavour to help the child change their behaviour in future. If a child is repeatedly involved in bullying other children, we inform the Headteacher/Inclusion Manager. We then invite the child's parents into the school to discuss the situation. In more extreme cases, for example where these initial discussions have proven ineffective, the Headteacher may contact external support agencies such as social services.

Teachers attempt to support all children in their class and to establish a climate of trust and respect for all. By praising, rewarding and celebrating the success of all children, we aim to prevent incidents of bullying.

Pupils are taught about building positive relationships with peers, conflict resolution and the right/wrong behaviours by Class teachers in whole school SEAL/Dinosaur School units, THRIVE class and individual lessons and in PSHCE.

The role of Parents

Parents, who are concerned that their child might be being bullied, or who suspect that their child may be the perpetrator of bullying, should contact their child's class teacher immediately.

Parents have a responsibility to support the school's anti-bullying policy and to actively encourage their child to be a positive member of the school.

Monitoring and Review

This policy is monitored bi-annually and will be reviewed in December 2020. Should the need arise, the policy will be monitored by staff along with the Behaviour Policy and the Headteacher will report the effectiveness of the policies to Governors as necessary.

Policy updated by: Clare Grainger, Headteacher, January 2018