



DALLIMORE PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

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 the staff.

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.
- To ensure all stakeholders know that bullying will not be tolerated.

What Is Bullying?

The definition that teachers and pupils use and learn is

STOP - Several Times On Purpose.

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

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting 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)
- 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

It is also important to understand what bullying is **not**.

E.g. Bullying is not:

- Falling out
- Having an argument or a fight
- One off incidents

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.

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
- doesn't want to go on the school / public bus
- begs to be driven to school
- changes their usual routine
- is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
- begins to truant
- 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"
- asks for money or starts stealing money (to pay bully)
- has dinner or other monies continually "lost"
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- comes home starving (money / 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 mobile phone
- is nervous & 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

If an incident occurs it is important that pupils and parents understand the need to tell someone.

1. Report bullying incidents to staff.
2. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying will be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly.
3. If it is clear that bullying has taken place the incidents will be recorded by staff and kept in the 'Bullying Incidents' file in the head teacher's office. (Appendix A- Bullying Allegation Appendix B – Bullying Incident Log)
4. In serious cases parents of both the victim and the bully will be informed and may be asked to come in for a meeting to discuss the problem.
5. If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted.
6. Whilst ensuring the victim feels safe and supported, an attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour.

Outcomes

1. The victim will feel safe whilst at school.
2. Parents will be satisfied that the incident has been thoroughly investigated and dealt with adequately.
3. The bully (bullies) may be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences may take place.
4. In serious cases, suspension or even exclusion will be considered
5. After the incident / incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

Prevention

We will use various methods for helping children to prevent bullying. As and when appropriate, these may include:

- Each child naming a member of staff they would feel comfortable speaking to, and noting this name in their home/school books.
- writing a set of school rules
- signing a home school agreement
- writing stories or poems or drawing pictures about bullying
- reading stories about bullying or having them read to a class or assembly
- making up role-plays (or using KIDSCAPE role-plays)
- having discussions about bullying and why it matters
- deliver regular assemblies/ lessons about elements of bullying and e-safety
- Provide a secure method of communication so that pupils can confidentially report incidents (e.g. worry box)

Role of parents

Parents have an important part to play in our anti-bullying policy.

We ask parents to:

- Look out for unusual behaviour in your children – for example, they may suddenly not wish to attend school, feel ill regularly, or not complete work to their usual standard.

- Always take an active role in your child’s education. Enquire how their day has gone, who they have spent their time with, etc.
- If you feel your child may be a victim of bullying behaviour, inform school immediately. Your complaint will be taken seriously and appropriate action will follow.
- If a child has bullied your child, please do not approach that child on the playground or involve an older child to deal with the bully. Please inform school immediately.
- It is important that you advise your child not to fight back. It can make matters worse!
- Tell your child that it is not their fault that they are being bullied.
- Reinforce the school’s policy concerning bullying and make sure your child is not afraid to ask for help.

HELP ORGANISATIONS:

Childline	0800 1111
Advisory Centre for Education (ACE)	0808 800 5793
KIDSCAPE Parents Helpline (Mon-Fri, 10-4)	0845 1 205 204
Parentline Plus	0808 800 2222
Youth Access	020 8772 9900
Bullying Online	www.bullying.co.uk

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