



Woodside Primary School ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Every Child Matters is an approach to the well-being of young children from birth to nineteen and aims to support all children to develop their potential through five key outcomes for children to:

- Be healthy
- Stay safe
- Enjoy and achieve
- Make a positive contribution
- Achieve economic well-being

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 opportunities available in school.

Bullying is defined as deliberately hurtful behaviour, repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. The three main types of bullying are:

- physical (hitting, kicking, theft)
- verbal (name calling, racist remarks)
- indirect (spreading rumours, excluding someone from social groups)
 - cyber - all areas of internet such as email and internet chat room misuse
 - mobile threats by text messaging and calls

However, bullying isn't when a group of friends fall out and one child is temporarily ostracised. Although at the time it can be mistaken by pupils and parents as such. The school will work pro-actively to resolve the situation quickly and support the child.

Pupils who are being bullied may show changes in behaviour, such as becoming shy and nervous, feigning illness, taking unusual 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.

It is also important that the signs of bullying are not confused with signs of abuse and staff are to be made aware of potential risks through training and safeguarding 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

In Woodside School, bullying will not be tolerated. Pupils and parents troubled by bullying can draw their concerns to the attention of staff in the confidence that these will be carefully investigated and if substantiated, taken seriously and acted upon. Individual members of staff must be alerted to signs of bullying and will act promptly and firmly against it. Failure to respond to incidents may be interpreted as condoning the behaviour.

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.
- A clear account of the incident will be recorded and given to the Head Teacher or Deputy Head Teacher.
- The Head Teacher or Deputy Head Teacher will interview all concerned and will record the incident.
- Class Teachers will be kept informed of all incidents.
- Parents will be kept informed.
- Sanctions will be used as appropriate as incorporated in our whole school Behaviour Policy and in consultation.
- Pupils who have been bullied will be supported by offering an immediate opportunity to discuss the experience with their Class Teacher or a member of staff from the Unit Resource Base.

Pupils who have been bullied will be helped by:

- discussing what happened
- discovering why the pupil became involved
- establishing the wrong doing and need to change – adopting a cognitive behaviour approach and the need to change
- informing parents or guardians to help change the attitude of the pupil

The following disciplinary steps can be taken:

- formal reprimand by the Headteacher
- exclusion from class to reflect upon behaviour
- counselling
- fixed-term exclusion
- permanent exclusion

Within the curriculum the school will raise the awareness of the nature of bullying through inclusion and PSHE, assemblies and subject areas as appropriate in an attempt to discourage such behaviour and raising awareness among children.

Review

Review Date – September 2024

To be reviewed - September 2025

Headteacher: Richard Collings



Safeguarding lead: Chelsea Percival



Chair of Governors: Rev. Emma Spe

