



## Corringham Primary School

(Including: Corringham Primary Pre-School and Speech and Language Enhanced Provision)

# Anti-Bullying Policy 2017/2018

Developed:	Summer 2014
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# ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

## **INTRODUCTION**

Corringham Primary School expects all members of the community to treat each other with courtesy and respect. Everyone has the right to feel safe and secure at school and to be protected when vulnerable so that all may flourish without fear of unfair treatment or harassment.

## **AIMS OF THE POLICY**

- To bring together all members of the community to create a happy, caring environment where bullying is not tolerated
- To work together to prevent bullying
- To deal effectively with bullying when it occurs
- To integrate with the school's PSHE programme
- To integrate with the school's tutorial programme

## **WHY IS AN ANTI-BULLYING POLICY NECESSARY?**

The school believes that its pupils have the right to learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied.

All schools contain some pupils with the potential for bullying behaviour. If the school is well disciplined and organised, it can minimise the occurrence of bullying. The school has a clear policy on the promotion of good citizenship where it is made clear that bullying is a form of anti-social behaviour which will not be tolerated.

It is therefore important that the school has a written policy to promote this where pupils and parents/guardians are fully aware that bullying complaints will be dealt with firmly, fairly and promptly.

## **THE IDENTIFICATION OF BULLYING**

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person. It results in pain or distress to the victim, who has in no way provoked the bullying. It usually occurs over time but sometimes can be just one incident.

### **Corringham Primary Pre-School – Specific**

A child who is bullying has reached a stage of development where he or she is able to plan to carry out a premeditated intent to cause distress in another. Bullying usually occurs in children five years old or older. Under-fives generally have not reached the stage of development for premeditated behaviour.

## **BULLYING CAN BE:**

**Physical** – pushing, kicking, punching, hitting or threatening physical violence.

**Verbal** – name calling, nasty teasing, spreading rumours, writing hurtful things about someone, text messages.

**Emotions** – excluding by, being deliberately unfriendly, tormenting, racial taunting, threatening or rude gestures, unpleasant e-mails/telephone calls, negative remarks about appearance, religion, disability, gender or sexuality.

**Intimidation, threatening** – demanding money or possessions, copying homework, victim or bystanders afraid to report bullying incidents.

**Cyber bullying** – use of ICT to deliberately upset someone. In particular mobile phones, e-mails, social website, text messages, cameras and the internet.

**Exclusion** – deliberate exclusion from discussion/activities with those believed to be their friends.

## **RECOGNISING BULLYING**

It is not always easy or possible to tell if someone is upset. Young people often find it difficult to talk. There may, however, be changes in their behaviour such as shyness/nervousness, demanding attention, feigned or real illness, disturbed sleep, loss of concentration or withdrawal, unwilling to come to school.

## **ACTION PLAN**

### **Pupils' Code of Action**

- Tell someone – (parent, friend, teacher, LSA, Pastoral/Administration Assistant, Deputy Headteachers)
- Don't retaliate but don't give in
- Avoid being alone or going to less supervised areas where bullying may occur
- Find a group of friends to help you
- Remember there is always someone to help

### **If you know someone is being bullied**

- TAKE ACTION! Watching and doing nothing looks as if you are on the side of the bully. It makes the victim feel more unhappy and on their own
- Tell an adult IMMEDIATELY. Teachers have ways of dealing with the bully without getting you into trouble
- Do not be, or pretend to be, friends with a bully

## **Staff Code of Action**

- If there is any suspicion of bullying please investigate and speak to the victim in a supportive way
- Deal firmly with the bully; making it clear that his/her behaviour is unacceptable
- Make it clear to the victim that help is close at hand and that there is nothing wrong with him/her
- Continue to monitor the situation
- Alert the Teacher and Pastoral Team
- The Pastoral Team may involve the parents of both the bully and the bullied

It is vital that all members of the school community are committed to this policy. If bullying is allowed to go unchallenged, the bully, the victim and all the pupils and staff will suffer from the school's failure to react positively to the threat which bullying poses.

## **Parents' Code of Action**

- Look 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 normal standard
- Always take an active role in your child's education. Enquire how their day has gone, who they have spent their time with, how lunch time was spent etc
- If you feel your child may be a victim of bullying behaviour, inform the School IMMEDIATELY. Your complaint will be taken seriously and appropriate action will follow
- It is important that you advise your child not to fight back. It can make matters worse!
- Tell your own son or daughter there is nothing wrong with him or her. It is not his or her fault that they are being bullied
- Make sure your child is fully aware of the School Policy concerning bullying, and that they should not be afraid to ask for help

## **SUPPORT STRATEGIES**

Help, support and counselling will be given as is appropriate to both the victims and the bullies:

### **We support the victims in the following ways:**

- by offering them an immediate opportunity to talk about the experience with their class teacher, or another teacher if they choose
- informing the victims' parents/carers

- by offering continuing support when they feel they need it
- arranging for them to be escorted to and from the school premises if required
- by taking one or more of the seven disciplinary steps described below to prevent more bullying

**We also discipline, yet try to help the bullies in the following ways:**

- by talking about what happened, to discover why they became involved
- informing the bullies' parents/carers
- by continuing to work with the bullies in order to get rid of prejudiced attitudes as far as possible
- by taking one or more of the seven disciplinary steps described below to prevent more bullying

**DISCIPLINARY STEPS:**

- they will be warned officially to stop offending
- informing the bullies' parents/carers
- they may be excluded from the school premises at break and/or lunch times
- we may arrange for them to be escorted to and from the school premises
- if they do not stop bullying they will be excluded for a minor fixed period (one or two days)
- if they then carry on they will be recommended for exclusion, for a major fixed period (up to five days) or an indefinite period
- if they will not end such behaviour, they will be recommended for permanent exclusion