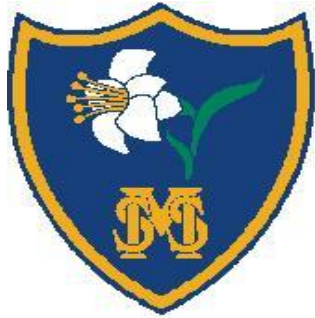


Haddenham St Mary's CE School



ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Introduction

All children have the right to an educational environment where they feel safe and which is free from harassment and bullying. (United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child)

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.

Aims of the school

- To strive to achieve high standards of behaviour at all times
- To educate children about issues related to bullying behaviour.
- To have effective strategies in place to prevent bullying.
- To ensure staff are alert to signs of bullying
- To provide clear and effective guidance for all staff to intervene and take appropriate action to support those who are bullied and those who bully.
- To ensure staff act as role models and are neither to be seen bullying colleagues or misusing their authority

What is Bullying?

Bullying is unacceptable behaviour used by an individual or group, usually repeated over time; that intentionally hurts another individual, or group, either physically or emotionally. Bullying can be short term or continuous over long periods of time.

Inevitably there will be times when children will fall out and are upset but the significant difference is that bullying is intentional, not an accident, and is a **repeated** act against another child whilst being aware that it is causing upset to the victim.

Bullying can take many forms:

Emotional	being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures)
Physical	pushing, kicking, biting, hitting, punching or any use of violence
Racial	racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
Sexual	unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
Homophobic	because of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality
Direct or indirect Verbal	name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
Cyber bullying	All areas of internet ,such as email and internet chat Twitter, Facebook misuse, mobile threats by text messaging and calls Misuse of associated technology, i.e. camera and video facilities, I- pad, games consoles.

Anti-bullying strategy

At Haddenham St Mary's we prevent bullying in the following ways:

- Assembly themes that deal with bullying and hurtful behaviour when the need arises. Pupils will be aware bullying runs counter to our school ethos which encourages respect, trust, caring, consideration and support for others, and this type of behaviour is not acceptable.

- PSHE and circle time work that focuses on bullying and other forms of anti-social behaviour. Part of our PHSE curriculum focuses on friendships, conflict, working as a group, celebrating differences and also tackles how we deal with feelings and emotions. All pupils, through the school PSHE policy have an opportunity to develop their understanding of appropriate relationships and their own contribution to them. This also equips children with the knowledge of what to do if incidents occur outside of school.
- Teaching children to respect themselves and others and to understand we are all different. This is through the school's core values and through the school's curriculum drivers which permeate the curriculum.
- Regular input from the school council to discuss possible problems and playground rules and activities.
- Careful monitoring of children's behaviour by all teaching and non-teaching staff. In addition it is the responsibility of each class teacher to communicate with colleagues any incidents or concerns which might be on-going. This is done during weekly staff meetings.
- Using the school's 'E-Safety' approach which raises the awareness for children, staff and parents regarding cyberbullying and keeping themselves safe on the internet. Parents and children are asked to sign the e-safety agreement on an annual basis to ensure that they are aware of expectations and procedures.

Expectations

Everyone has a responsibility to help in every way to stop bullying.

All bullying will be dealt with very seriously and the expectations are as follows:

Children are expected to:-

- speak up for someone who needs support
- tell an adult
- don't keep bullying a secret

Parents are expected to:-

- listen to your child
- tell the school of your concerns if you suspect your child is being bullied or is a bully

Communication between parents and school is important

Teaching and non-teaching staff are expected to:

- treat the information seriously whether received from a child or an adult
- investigate the alleged incident and question all those involved

Parents will be made aware of serious incidents and asked to come into school to discuss an appropriate response to the situation.

When parents, school and children all work together, a great deal of bullying can be prevented.

We are aware that to allow or condone bullying may lead to consideration under child protection procedures.