



## Wavertree Primary School Anti-Bullying Policy

Person Responsible for the Policy: Headteacher

Adopted by Governors: March 2017

To be reviewed: March 2019

### What we believe about bullying

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.

### What Is Bullying?

Bullying is hurting another person deliberately and persistently. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

### What forms does bullying take?

- 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 focusing 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. Cyber bullying may occur both inside out outside school hours.

### Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying?

- Bullying hurts.
- Bullying ruins lives
- Everybody has the right to be treated with respect.
- So that people will know what to do and bullying can be dealt with
- To make our school a safer place
- To stop people being bullied and help the bullies become better people
- So that everyone is confident about school 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.
- As a school we take bullying seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Bullying will not be tolerated.
- That it will be understood that everyone needs to take responsibility for bullying

All teachers, staff, parents and children should be able to recognise what is genuinely bullying and what is a disagreement between children.

### Signs and Symptoms

We think that 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 come to school
- Is alone all the time
- Not doing well in lessons
- Doesn't want to talk to anyone
- Is aggressive
- Shows unusual behaviour
- Appears depressed
- becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence
- starts stammering
- feels ill in the morning
- comes home with clothes torn or books damaged
- has possessions which are damaged or " go missing"
- asks for money or starts stealing money
- has dinner or other monies continually "lost"
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- is bullying other children or siblings
- stops eating
- is frightened to say what's wrong

### What do we do at Wavertree to prevent bullying?

- School Code Of Conduct
- Class Rules / Rights and Responsibilities
- Displays
- Celebration Assembly to help children feel confident
- Certificates and stickers
- Teachers, LSAs and LM to talk to

- Buddies
- Reflections in PSHE
- Circle Time
- Verbal Warnings
- PSHE lessons
- SEAL
- Work and activities during Anti-Bullying Week

### What happens at our school if bullying is discovered?

It is important to tell someone so that the school can help

- Report bullying incidents to staff
- Older Pupils will be able to write down what has happened
- We will bring the children together and ask them to explain how they are feeling and to listen to each other and try to reach a way forward
- The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated by Class Teacher or Senior Teacher
- In cases of serious bullying, the incidents will be recorded

In the Bullying Log and the Head teacher or Senior Teacher should be informed

- In serious cases parents should be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem
- When necessary, governors will be informed
- If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted by the Head Teacher
- We want to see people doing the bullying punished so that everyone can understand that bullying is serious but want support for them too so that they can understand their feelings and change their behaviour. Support may include: Small group support/ Peer Mentor support
- Punishments will be tailored to age of child and circumstances. Details of punishments may be confidential.
- The person doing the bullying may be asked to genuinely apologise when they understand how they have hurt the person being bullied
- In serious cases of bullying, suspension or even exclusion will be considered by the Head Teacher with the governors.
- After the incident / incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored by Class Teacher and Senior Staff to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

This policy cannot stand alone. It has links with:

- The PSHE Policy
- The Discipline and Exclusion Policy
- The E-Safety Policy