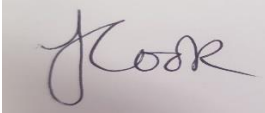




Anti-Bullying Policy For Bidbury Infant School

Name of Unit School	Bidbury Infant School
Date Policy Reviewed	September 2022
Name of Headteacher	Julie Cook
Signature of Headteacher	

1. Rationale

Bidbury Infant School is against all forms of bullying. This includes bullying between pupils, staff members, parents and any other members of our community.

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. Only when all issues of bullying are addressed will pupils be able to fully benefit from the opportunities available at school.

Bullying has a negative effect on all those involved; the target, the perpetrator and the bystanders. Every child and young person, including those who are vulnerable or disadvantaged, should have the best possible start in life. We aim:

- to ensure everyone stays healthy and safe
- to ensure everyone feels valued and has a sense of belonging
- to provide a high quality learning environment
- to help everyone enjoy learning and achieve their best
- to nurture and develop the whole child
- to ensure everyone makes a positive contribution to the school and wider community

2. Definition

Our definition of bullying is taken from Hampshire Children's Trust.

“Bullying is behaviour by an individual or group, usually repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally”

Bullying is anti-social behaviour and affects everyone; it is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

The main types of bullying are:

- Physical (hitting, kicking, theft)
- Verbal (name calling, racist remarks)
- Indirect (spreading rumours, excluding someone from social groups).
- Cyber-bullying (e.g. misuse of social networks).

Behaviour is bullying behaviour if:

- It is repetitive, wilful or persistent;
- It is intentionally harmful, carried out by an individual or group; and,
- There is an imbalance of power leaving the person who is bullied feeling defenceless.

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 reluctance to come to school.

This policy is designed to ensure that as a school we are alert to signs of bullying and act promptly and firmly against it.

3. Procedures

All allegations of bullying are dealt with by the Headteacher or a member of the senior leadership team.

They are dealt with by

- Gathering information about the incidents by talking to staff, children, parents etc.
- Identify if the acts fulfil the criteria set out in our definition.
- If the incident is not bullying it will still be dealt with by talking to the child who has carried out the harmful behaviour and showing them that it was not appropriate, the other child was hurt and that it must not happen again. Further sanctions may be carried out if appropriate in accordance with the Behaviour Policy.
- If the incident is bullying then the above measures will be taken and also the child's parents asked to meet with the headteacher to discuss the situation.
- In both cases, the situation will be monitored by all the staff both in class and in the playground.
- The child who has been harmed will be given support to disclose any further incidents.
- Parents of the hurt child will regularly be informed of their child's safety until such a time that all parties feel the situation has been resolved.
- The child who perpetrates bullying behaviour will be supported to change their behaviour by e.g.
 - Discussions with a member of the senior leadership team
 - Additional home communication
 - Individual behaviour plan

The pupils are taught about friendships and encouraged to use appropriate behaviour through

- Circle times
- Buddying new children to the school
- PSHE lessons
- Assemblies
- Learning specific to bullying during 'Anti-bullying Week'

Pupils are also taught what to do if someone tries to harm them physically or emotionally and this includes

- Saying 'stop it I don't like it'
- Walking away
- Telling an adult
- Staying with friends who they trust

This policy will be monitored through children's surveys, parent questionnaires and by Governor monitoring visits.