



Anti - Bullying Policy

Date adopted by full governing body: Autumn 2016
Review date: Autumn 2018

Definitions

Bullying is the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. It can happen face-to-face or through cyberspace, and comes in many different forms (*kidscape.org.uk*).
(see Appendix 1)

Aims of the Policy

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 someone and be confident that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We encourage children's sense of responsibility towards each other and emphasise that if **anyone** knows that bullying is happening, they are expected to tell a 'trusted' adult.

We believe that everybody has the right to be treated with respect. We have a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying, and to help children who are bullying to learn different ways of behaving. Bullying will not be tolerated at Ickleford Primary School.

Objectives

- to ensure that all children, parents, staff and governors have an understanding of what bullying is
- to ensure that bullying is taken seriously by all members of the school community.
Children and parents should be assured that bullying will be dealt with effectively when it is reported
- to ensure that all children, parents and staff follow the school's procedures if bullying occurs

Procedures

1. report any bullying incidents to a 'trusted' adult. The relevant class teacher, deputy head teacher and headteacher must be informed verbally
2. the bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and addressed immediately; initially by the class teacher and then the deputy head teacher or head teacher if required
3. record incidents on C-Poms (internal logging system)
4. the child/ren bullying are asked to make a genuine apology

5. the school behaviour policy is followed to impose sanctions. In serious cases, internal or external exclusions will be considered
6. appropriate staff will be informed of any bullying incidents to monitor individuals behaviour
7. parents will be notified either by class teacher, deputy head teacher or headteacher
8. if necessary and appropriate, police/community support officers will be consulted
9. the school supports all children involved and aids reconciliation

Prevention

We work hard to prevent any forms of bullying. The following may be used:

- establish golden rules which demonstrate caring behaviour, and ensure they are understood by all children
- PSHE teaching
- Values education
- Circle time
- School council
- Collective Worship
- Anti-bullying weeks – raising awareness

Helpful Organisations

Kidscape parents helpline (Mon-Tues 10-5)	020 7730 3300 www.kidscape.org.uk
Bullying Online	0808 800 2222 www.bullying.co.uk
Childline	0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk
NSPCC	0808 800 5000 www.nspcc.org.uk

Main types of bullying

- **Physical:** pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any other use of violence
- **Sexual:** unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
- **Verbal:** name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- **Cyber:** all areas of internet, such as email and internet chat room misuse; mis-use of mobile phones to threaten or intimidate by text messaging and calls
- **Social:** leaving someone out constantly and encouraging others to do the same, spreading rumours, negative facial or physical gestures, menacing or contemptuous looks
- **Prejudicial:** targeting someone because of their race, religion, disability or sexual orientation

Signs and Symptoms

A child ***may*** indicate by signs of behaviour that s/he is being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and that they should be investigated if a child:

- is frightened of walking to and from school
- begs to be driven to school
- changes their usual routine
- is unwilling to go to school
- begins truanting
- becomes withdrawn, anxious, or lacking in confidence
- starts stammering
- attempts or threatens to run away
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- feels ill in the morning
- begins to underachieve in school work
- has possessions go “missing”
- asks for money or starts to steal money (to give to bully)
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- is bullying other children or siblings
- stops eating
- is frightened to say what’s wrong

These signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and investigated.