

# **Mount Street School**

## **Anti Bullying Policy**

### **Introduction**

Bullying is action taken by one or more children with the deliberate intention of hurting another child, either physically or emotionally. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

### **Bullying can be:**

- Emotional - being unfriendly, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures), excluding.
- 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 focussing on the issue of sexuality.
- Verbal – name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing.

Bullying is wrong and damages individual children. No-one deserves to be the victim of bullying. Everyone has the right to be treated with respect. Pupils who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving. Schools have a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

### **Aims of this policy**

- To develop a school ethos in which bullying is regarded as unacceptable.
- To produce a safe and secure environment where all can learn without anxiety.
- To produce a consistent school response to any bullying incidents which may occur.
- To make all those connected with the school aware of our opposition to bullying and to make clear each persons responsibilities with regard to the eradication of bullying in our school.
- To give all governors, teachers, non-teaching staff, pupils and parents an understanding of what bullying is.

### **Roles**

#### **Governors**

- Support the headteacher in eliminating bullying.
- Monitor the incidents of bullying and review the effectiveness of the policy regularly,

- Respond to any request from a parent to investigate an incident.

### **Headteacher**

- implement the school anti - bullying policy.
- ensure that all staff are aware of the policy and the procedures
- report to the governing body on the effectiveness of the policy.
- ensure that all children know that bullying is wrong and that it is unacceptable behaviour.
- ensure that all staff receive sufficient training to be equipped to deal with all incidents of bullying.
- set the climate of mutual support and praise.
- report serious or prolonged incidents to parents

### **Staff**

- intervene to prevent incidents from taking place.
- report incidents to the headteacher.
- support the bullied child
- share incidents with all staff
- endeavour to change the behaviour of the child who is bullying
- ensure pupils know what might constitute bullying
- Complete an Incident report.

### **Children**

- must tell either the nearest adult, the class teacher, headteacher or parents if they are being bullied.
- remember that bullying is wrong and will be dealt with
- be specific about how they are being bullied

### **Procedures**

1. Children report bullying incidents to staff.
2. The incident is dealt with immediately. The bullied child is comforted and reassured. The perpetrator is spoken to.
3. In cases of more serious bullying or prolonged bullying, parents will be informed and asked to come to discuss the problem with the headteacher.
4. If necessary, the school SENCO will be involved.
5. The incident is recorded on a form and kept in a file in the Head's office.

## **Outcomes**

1. The bully (bullies) will be asked to genuinely apologise.
2. In very serious cases, suspension, or even exclusion will be considered.
3. If possible, the pupils will be reconciled.
4. Each case will be monitored and recorded to ensure repeated bullying does not take place. The records to be kept in a file in the Head's office.

## **Prevention**

We will use (Circle Time) for helping children to prevent bullying. Other activities may include:

- Writing a set of school rules
- Signing a behaviour contract
- Writing stories or poems or drawing pictures about bullying
- Reading stories in class or assembly
- Making up role plays
- Having discussions about bullying

## **Monitor and review**

This policy is reviewed by governors on a regular basis

Date of last review

March 2004

**Bullying Incident Report**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name of member of staff \_\_\_\_\_

Child(ren) involved \_\_\_\_\_

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Description of the incident \_\_\_\_\_

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Action taken \_\_\_\_\_

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Review Date \_\_\_\_\_

Further Action \_\_\_\_\_

