

## Anti Bullying Policy

### Policy Statement:

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.

### Objectives of this Policy:

- Proprietor, teaching and non-teaching staffs, pupils and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- Proprietor and teaching and non-teaching staffs should know what the school policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported.
- All pupils and parents should know what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises.
- 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.**

### Definition of Bullying:

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

Bullying can be:

- Emotional (being unfriendly), excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures).
- Physical pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence.
- Racial taunts, homophobic taunts, graffiti, gestures.
- Sexual unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments.
- Verbal name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing.
- Cyber all areas of internet, such as email & internet chat room misuse Mobile threats by text messaging & call Misuse of associated technology, i.e. Camera & video facilities.

## Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying?

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everybody 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 which occur within the school.

### Signs and Symptoms:

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.
- does not want to go on the school / public bus.
- insists on parents/carer's accompanying him to school
- change their usual routine.
- is unwilling to go to school (school phobic).
- begins to truant.
- becomes withdrawn, anxious or lacking in confidence.
- start stammering.
- attempts or threatens suicide or runs away.
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares.
- feels ill in the morning.
- begins to do poorly in school work.
- comes home with clothes torn or books damaged.
- has possessions which are damaged or "go missing".
- asks for money or starts stealing money (to pay bully).
- has dinner or other monies continually "lost".
- has unexplained cuts or bruises.
- comes home starving (money / lunch has been stolen).
- becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable.
- is bullying other children or siblings.
- stops eating.
- is frightened to say what's wrong.
- gives improbable excuses for any of the above.
- is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone.
- is nervous and jumpy when a cyber-message is received.

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

**Procedures:**

1. Report bullying incidents to staff
2. In cases of bullying, the incidents will be recorded by staff immediately (Behaviour manager)
3. In serious cases parents should be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem.
4. If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted.
5. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly.
6. An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour.

**Outcomes:**

- 1) The bully (bullies) may be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences may take place.
- 2) In serious cases, suspension or even exclusion will be considered.
- 3) If possible, the pupils will be reconciled.
- 4) After the incident / incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

**Prevention:**

We will use various methods for helping children to prevent bullying. As and when appropriate, these may include:

- writing a set of school rules.
- signing a home school contract.
- writing stories or poem or drawing picture about bullying.
- reading stories about bullying or having them read to a class or assembly.
- having discussions about bullying and why it matters.
- following the good example of the Prophet (PBUH) characteristics on treating others.

## **Links to Our Other Policies**

Please also refer to the following policies: Safeguarding; Behaviour for Learning; E-Safety. Other relevant documents are The School Ethos policy.

## **Help Organisations:**

- Advisory Centre for Education (ACE) 020 7354 8321
- Children's Legal Centre 0845 345 4345
- KIDSCAPE Parents Helpline (Mon-Fri, 10-4) 0845 1 205 204
- Parent line Plus 0808 800 2222
- Youth Access 020 8772 9900
- Bullying Online [www.bullying.co.uk](http://www.bullying.co.uk)
- Visit the Kids cape website [www.kidscape.org.uk](http://www.kidscape.org.uk) for further support, links and advice.