

St Mary Magdalene C of E School with Christ Church C of E Primary School

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

	Written in	September 2015	
This policy was:	Updated in	May 2018	
	Review date	May 2019	
	Approved by	Dr P Gregory	Mrs J Eastaugh
		Co-Chairs of Governors	
		Phinjany	S.P. Kaslaugh
		Mrs C Harrison	Mrs V Wainwright
		Federation Co-Headteachers	
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Children at our schools enjoy many rights. These include the right to be healthy, safe, enjoy and achieve and to make a positive contribution to school life. We foster and nurture the Christian faith and the ethos of the Church of England. We aim to create a positive and caring environment which values all members of our diverse community, and where anti-social and bullying behaviours are not accepted or tolerated.

Our school motto 'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you' helps us to think about our actions and try to look for peaceful and productive ways to solve conflict. When considering a situation we may also consider what we think Jesus may have done. (WWJD – What Would Jesus Do)

This policy aims to produce a consistent school response to any bullying incidents that may occur. We work in partnership with all stakeholders to eliminate bullying and unacceptable behaviour.

Definition of Bullying

We define bullying as hurtful behaviour repeated over a period of time by one or more children towards another. Bullying can be physical, verbal or indirect. This may include cyber bullying. Cyber bullying can be defined as the use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT), particularly mobile phones and the internet, to deliberately upset someone else.

We aim to prevent bullying by:

- Using the curriculum, especially PSHE, SEAL, RE and Collective Worship to raise the awareness of the school's expectations.
- Adhering to the Behaviour Policy so that the school's agreed way of working is consistently applied.
- Encouraging children to behave positively according to our Golden Rules and to reject anti-social behaviour in or out of school.
- Continuing educating and reminding the children of what the right thing is for themselves and for others.

While the school will make every effort to deal with bullying on the school premises and to prevent bullying outside the school gates, we recognise that we cannot be held directly responsible for bullying that takes place off site either by pupils in this school or by pupils of other schools, or on pupils' journeys to and from school.

At our schools we encourage children to seek help and to tell us about incidents that happen outside the school so that we can:

- Raise concerns and take appropriate steps e.g. incidents on public transport alert the police.
- Alert colleagues at another school whose pupils are bullying off premises.
- Offer pupils and parents/carers strategies to handle bullying off the school premises and guidance on how to keep safe on the internet and when using their mobile phones.

In the event of bullying the school has the following procedures:

Investigate the situation by talking to all the:

- Children involved

- Witnesses
- Staff members

Record as appropriate in oral, written or picture form, the situation from:

- Children involved
- Witnesses involved

Respond to the bully by:

- Ensuring that they recognise, own and reflect on their behaviour and how it affects others
- Applying appropriate sanctions
- Guiding, supporting, advising and offering them strategies to change their behaviour
- Insisting that they take responsibility for their actions and helping them to actively make amends
- Involving parents and carers
- Involving outside agencies when necessary

Respond to the child who is bullied, hurt or upset by:

- Actively listening to the child
- Offering support and strategies to deal with unwanted behaviours
- Protecting the child and ensuring their safety
- Involving parents and carers
- Involving outside agencies to support the child as appropriate
- Using specific strategies e.g. calming from 'SEAL', intervention groups with a focus on social skills

Review the situation with:

- Children involved
- Parents and others as appropriate