

Long Sutton Primary School Anti-bullying Policy



1 Introduction

Bullying is ongoing action taken by one or more children with the deliberate intention of hurting another child, either physically or emotionally.

2 Aims and Objectives

Bullying is wrong and damages individual children. We therefore do all we can to prevent it, by developing a school ethos in which bullying is regarded as unacceptable.

We aim, as a school, to produce a safe and secure environment where all can learn without anxiety.

This policy aims to produce a consistent school response to any bullying incidents that may occur and to deal with these incidents within the framework laid out in our Behaviour Management policy.

We aim to make all those connected with the school aware of our opposition to bullying, and we make clear each person's responsibilities with regard to the eradication of bullying in our school.

The children believe every child has the right to feel safe and happy in school. They should be able to come to school knowing they will be able to learn and have fun with their friends. They should be able to be themselves and have others accept that. Therefore, our Anti-bullying policy should help prevent bullying in school.

3 The Role of Governors

The governing body

- supports the headteacher in all attempts to eliminate bullying from our school. This policy statement makes it very clear that the governing body does not allow bullying to take place in our school, and that any incidents of bullying that do occur are taken very seriously and dealt with appropriately.
- monitors the incidents of bullying that occur, and reviews the effectiveness of the school policy regularly. The governors require the headteacher to keep accurate records of all incidents of bullying and to report to the governors on request about the effectiveness of school anti-bullying strategies.
- responds within ten days to any request from a parent to investigate incidents of bullying. In all cases, the governing body notifies the headteacher and asks him/her to conduct an investigation into the case and to report back to a representative of the governing body.

4 The Role of the Headteacher

The headteacher

- implements the school anti-bullying strategy and to ensure that all staff (both teaching and non-teaching) are aware of the school policy and know how to deal with incidents of bullying.
- reports to the governing body about the effectiveness of the anti-bullying policy on request.

- ensures that all children know that bullying is wrong, and that it is unacceptable behaviour in this school.
- draws the attention of children to this fact at suitable moments and it is broached as part of the planned PHSE curriculum.
- ensures that all staff receive sufficient training to be equipped to deal with all incidents of bullying.
- sets the school climate of mutual support and praise for success, so making bullying less likely. When children feel they are important and belong to a friendly and welcoming school, bullying is far less likely to be part of their behaviour.

5 The Role of all School Staff

Staff in our school take all forms of bullying seriously, and intervene to prevent incidents from taking place. They keep their own records of all incidents that happen whilst children are in their care and that they are aware of in the school.

If staff witness an act of bullying, they do all they can to support the child who is being bullied and the class teacher should be informed. If a child is being bullied over a period of time, then, after consultation with the headteacher, the teacher informs the child's parents.

We keep an anti-bullying logbook in the office where we record all incidents of bullying that occur outside lesson time. If any adult witnesses an act of bullying, they should record the event in the logbook. Sometimes it will be the class teacher who will keep a class log of any incidents, but at all times the Headteacher will be kept informed.

When teachers become aware of any bullying taking place between members of a class, they should investigate the issue immediately. This may involve counselling and support for the victim of the bullying, and punishment for the child who has carried out the bullying. We spend time talking to the child who has bullied: we explain why the action of the child was wrong, and we endeavour to help the child change their behaviour in future. If a child is repeatedly involved in bullying other children, we inform the headteacher. We then invite the child's parents into the school to discuss the situation. In more extreme cases, for example where these initial discussions have proven ineffective, the headteacher may contact external support agencies such as the social services.

All staff routinely attend training, which enables them to become equipped to deal with incidents of bullying and behaviour management.

All staff attempt to support all children and to establish a climate of trust and respect for all. By praising, rewarding and celebrating the success of all children, we aim to prevent incidents of bullying. Our Golden Rules supports this.

6 The Role of Children

Children will watch out for each other and tell the teacher if they see anyone being bullied.

They will look out for children on their own or sitting on the friendship bench.

The children will make it clear that they do not want bullies in their school.

Children need to talk to an adult or to a peer mentor if they feel they are being bullied.

The children will make use of class suggestion boxes to communicate concerns.

Buddies will support Year R pupils and model appropriate behaviours.

7 The Role of Parents

Parents should talk to their child about their day at school.

Parents who are concerned that their child might be being bullied, or who suspect that their child may be the perpetrator of bullying, should contact their child's class teacher immediately.

Parents have a responsibility to support the school's anti-bullying policy and to actively encourage their child to be a positive member of the school.

Signed: Headteacher

Signed: Chair of Governors

Date of Review:

Date of Next Review:

April 2008