

# BELGRAVE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

### Aim

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.

### What Is Bullying?

Bullying is *"behaviour by an individual or group, usually repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally"* (resulting in pain and distress to the victim.)

Department for Children, Schools and Families (2007), *Safe to Learn*.

Bullying can be:

- Emotional      being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures)
- 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

- **Cyber**            All areas of internet ,such as email & internet chat room misuse  
Mobile threats by text messaging & calls  
Misuse of associated technology , i.e. camera & video facilities

### **Objectives of this Policy**

- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff 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.

### **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
- doesn't want to go on the school / public bus
- begs to be driven to school
- changes their usual routine
- is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
- begins to truant
- becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence
- starts 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 & 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 and Strategies**

1. Report bullying incidents to staff who will inform Senior Management Team (SMT)
2. In cases of bullying, the incidents will be recorded by SMT in a book/file that is kept in the Headteachers office. The details will be recorded with names and dates. SMT will talk to all involved and keep an accurate record of what is said.
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.

7. A 'Behaviour and Incident' record will be kept for each child if appropriate. This will enable patterns and details of incidents to inform action.

## **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.
- 5) All staff will be informed to enable staff to be able to supervise and be aware of potential problems.

## **Prevention**

- we will prioritise Personal Social Health & Citizenship Education with the children regularly.
- writing a set of school rules
- signing a behaviour contract
- reading stories about bullying or having them read to a class or assembly
- making up role-plays
- having discussions about bullying and why it matters

**Review Date: January 2016**

Kidscape 2005

Policy last revised: January 07/11/2013

Filename: Antibullypolicy

## HELP ORGANISATIONS:

Advisory Centre for Education 0808 800 5793  
[www.ace-ed.org.uk](http://www.ace-ed.org.uk)

The Anti Bullying Alliance  
[www.antibullyingalliance.org.uk](http://www.antibullyingalliance.org.uk)

Anti Bullying Campaign 020 737 81446.

Bully Busters 0800 169 6978  
[www.bullybusters.org.uk](http://www.bullybusters.org.uk)

Children's Legal Centre 0845 345 4345

KIDSCAPE Parents Helpline (Mon-Fri, 10-4) 0845 1 205 204

Parentline Plus 0808 800 2222

Youth Access 020 8772 9900

Bullying Online [www.bullying.co.uk](http://www.bullying.co.uk)

Visit the Kidscape website [www.kidscape.org.uk](http://www.kidscape.org.uk) for further support, links and advice.