



## **ANTI BULLYING POLICY**

As a church school, our vision is for each child to love learning and to have hope, confidence, wisdom and respect for all.

***'Life in all its fullness'*** (John 10:10)

### **Introduction**

St Peter's Brafferton Primary School is committed to providing a supportive, caring and safe environment in which all children are free from the fear of being bullied. As a school we take bullying and its impact seriously. Bullying of any form is not tolerated in our school, whether carried out by a child or an adult.

Staff, children and parents or carers will be made aware of the school's position on bullying. Bullying behaviour is unacceptable in any form. The school has expectations for outstanding behaviour and we consistently challenge any behaviour that falls below this. Anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell a member of staff.

Any child who is a victim of bullying will be dealt with in a sympathetic manner. If bullying is suspected or reported, the incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff informed, and then discussed with the headteacher. A clear account of the incident will be recorded on CPOMs. All staff will be informed so that close monitoring of the victim and bully can begin. Parents of both parties will be informed.

### **What is bullying?**

We recognise that many children and young people will experience conflict in their relationships with other children and young people and as a school we are committed to developing empathy and the skills to manage relationships in a peaceful way that does not harm others.

In St Peter's Brafferton CE VA Primary School, our definition of bullying is:

***"The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. It can happen face to face or online"***

### **Types of bullying:**

Bullying behaviour across all types of bullying can represent itself in a number of different forms. Children and young people can be bullied in ways that are:

**Physical** – by being punched, pushed or hurt; made to give up money or belongings; having property, clothes or belongings damaged; being forced to do something they don't want to do.

**Verbal** – by being teased in a nasty way; called gay (whether or not it's true); insulted about their race, religion or culture; called names in other ways or having offensive comments directed at them.

**Indirect** – by having nasty stories told about them; being left out, ignored or excluded from groups. • Some bullying is physical:

**Electronic / 'cyberbullying'** – via text message; via instant messenger services and social network sites; via email; and via images or videos posted on the internet or spread via mobile phones or other electronic devices.

### **Scope**

This policy applies to all Staff, Governors, Parents and all Pupils at our school.

## **Aims**

At St. Peter's Brafferton CE VA Primary School bullying is unacceptable and can damage children's individual and educational needs. We therefore do all we can to prevent it, by developing a school ethos in which bullying is not tolerated under any circumstances (see positive behaviour policy). This policy aims to produce a consistent school response to any bullying incidents that may occur. 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.

## **Ethos**

St Peter's Brafferton CE (VA) Primary School is committed to putting our Christian vision into action and creating an inclusive culture where all adults working and all pupils learning in school feel valued and safe. This policy is intended to outline the ways in which we can support all pupils to feel safe and able to speak out about bullying issues, which in turn will benefit our pupils our school and our community, and will contribute positively in reaching our shared Christian Vision.

**Our Christian values which support this policy, and our ethos are:**  
**Community, Compassion, Truth , Trust , Friendship**

## **Principles**

### **Safeguarding**

St Peter's Brafferton CE VA Primary School fully recognises the contribution it can make to protect children and support pupils in school and beyond. We are fully committed to safeguarding our pupils through prevention, protection and support. We are also committed to actively promoting the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs; the pupils are encouraged to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain. It is our duty to protect children and young people against the messages of all violent extremism and to prevent terrorism. Any concerns should be referred to the Designated Child Protection Person who have local contact details for PREVENT and Channel referrals.

The school recognises that bullying is a complex type of behaviour occurring between individuals and groups.

Different roles within bullying situations can be identified and include:

- The ring-leader, who through their position of power can direct bullying activity
- Assistants/associates, who actively join in the bullying (sometimes because they are afraid of the ring-leader)
- Reinforcers, who give positive feedback to those who are bullying, perhaps by smiling or laughing
- Outsiders/bystanders, who stay back or stay silent and thereby appear to condone or collude with the bullying behaviour
- Defenders, who try and intervene to stop the bullying or comfort pupils who experience bullying

We positively encourage all pupils to take responsibility for their behaviour and its consequences and to make a commitment to take action to end the bullying and provide support for the bullied pupil.

## **Preventing Bullying**

We foster a clear understanding that bullying, in any form, is unacceptable. We believe that preventing bullying is the responsibility of our whole school community and when there are incidents of bullying we will work together to deal with the situation and to learn from what has happened.

In our school we do this by:

- Involving the school community in developing our policy including a child/ pupil friendly version of our policy.
- Using assemblies and circle time in class to ensure that pupils understand the differences between relational conflict and bullying.
- Building a positive ethos based on respecting and celebrating all types of difference in our school.
- Creating a safe and happy environment, with consequent positive relationships that have an impact on learning and achievement.
- Having a positive ethos that all pupils, staff and parents understand.
- Work in school which develops empathy, social skills and emotional understanding e.g. PSHE, Citizenship, social and emotional learning programmes, circle time, peer mediation and playground buddies.
- Secure the safety of the target of bullying
- Take actions to stop the bullying from happening again
- Whole school learning - reflection on what we have learnt
- Think about any safeguarding concern and report concerns to Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- Provide assurances to child that concerns have been listened to and action will be taken.
- Consider who else is involved and what roles they have taken.
- Send clear message that the bullying must stop.
- Work with both parties to find solutions. Identify the most effective way of preventing re-occurrence and any consequences.
- Reflect and learn from bullying episodes –consider what needs to happen next to prevent future bullying e.g. PSHE, training etc.
- Raising awareness of online bullying through regular e-safety lessons.
- Valuing diversity and ensuring everyone is included in our school.
- Focussed work with individuals and groups of pupils where required to support understanding and development of social skills e.g. social skills groups, ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) and Compass Phoenix trained staff.
- Ensuring playground and midday staff are trained and we have a range of activities at lunchtime to promote positive play.
- Offering training to all school staff around bullying, including specific guidance on those groups who are most likely to be bullied.

### **Role of the Headteacher and senior leadership team**

- a) It is the responsibility of the Head teacher to implement the school anti-bullying strategy and to ensure that all staff (both teaching and non-teaching) understand and follow the school policy and know how to deal with incidents of bullying. The Head teacher reports to the governing body about the effectiveness of the anti-bullying policy on request.
- b) The Head teacher ensures that all children understand the definition of bullying, know that it is wrong and that it is unacceptable behaviour in this school.
- c) The Head teacher ensures that all staff receive sufficient training to be equipped to deal with all incidents of bullying.
- d) The Head teacher sets the school climate of mutual support and praise for success, to 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.
- e) The Head teacher works collaboratively with the Teachers and the Wellbeing Champion to ensure that this policy is upheld.

### **Role of staff members**

- a) Teachers in our school take all forms of bullying seriously, and intervene to prevent incidents from taking place. They keep a record on CPOMS of all incidents that happen in their class and that they are aware of in the school.
- b) If teachers witness an act of bullying, they take immediate action to stop the bullying, and support the child who is being bullied. If a child is being bullied over a period of time, then, after consultation with the Head teacher, the teacher informs the child's parents.
- c) A record is kept on children's individual records on CPOMS, of bullying that occurs outside lesson time, either near the school or on the children's way home or to school or online. If any adult witnesses an act of bullying, they should inform the Headteacher who records the event on CPOMS.
- d) If, as teachers, we become aware of any bullying taking place between members of a class, we deal with the issue immediately. This may involve counselling and support for the victim of the bullying, and consequences for the child who has carried out the bullying. We spend time talking to all parties involved: we explain why the actions were wrong, and we endeavour to help and support behavioural change.
- e) If a child is involved in bullying other children, the Headteacher is informed immediately and if appropriate may involve the SENDCO. At an appropriate time, we 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 will contact external support agencies with parental consent/knowledge.
- f) Teachers routinely attend training, which enables them to become equipped with strategies to deal with incidents of bullying and behaviour management.
- g) Teachers support all children in their class and 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.

### **Role of the Governing Body including Link Governors.**

- a) The governing body supports the Head teacher in all attempts to eliminate bullying from our school. This policy statement makes it very clear that the governing body has zero tolerance of bullying in our school, and that any incidents of bullying that do occur are taken very seriously and dealt with appropriately.
- b) The governing body and safeguarding governor monitors the incidents of bullying that occur, and reviews the effectiveness of the school policy regularly. The governors require the Head teacher 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. In addition, the safeguarding governor produces an annual report on safeguarding across school.
- c) The governing body responds within ten days to any request from a parent to investigate incidents of bullying. In all cases, the governing body notifies the Head teacher and asks him/her to conduct an investigation into the case and to report back to a representative of the governing body.

### **Monitoring Processes**

This policy is monitored on a day-to-day basis by the Head teacher, who reports to governors about the effectiveness of the policy on request.

This anti-bullying policy is the governors' responsibility and they review its effectiveness annually. They do this by examining the school's anti bullying logs on CPOMS, and by discussion with the Head teacher. Governors analyse information with regard to gender, age and ethnic background of all children involved in bullying incidents.

**Extra support and guidance**

In addition to the policy measures outlined in this document, a range of other support mechanisms are in place and information on these is shared with all leaders, managers, Governors, staff, volunteers, and other adults covered by this policy.

**Other useful websites are:**

<https://www.bullying.co.uk/>

<https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/>

**Reviewed/monitored by: Full Governing Body**

**Date adopted: March 2022**

**Next review: March 2025**

**Review Cycle: 3 yearly**