



ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

*"Faithfully following in the footsteps of Jesus,
we serve, love and learn together
inspiring each other to excellence."*

Anti- Bullying Policy

2021

ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Anti – Bullying Policy

Faithfully following in the footsteps of Jesus,

we serve, love and learn together inspiring each other to excellence.

1. What is bullying?

'Bullying is behaviour by an individual or group, repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally. It can take many forms and involves an imbalance of power between the perpetrator and the victim. The imbalance of power can manifest itself in several ways, it may be physical, psychological, derive from intellectual imbalance, or by having access to the support of a group, or the capacity to socially isolate.' (Preventing and Tackling Bullying: DfE 2017)

2. Aims and objectives

All forms of bullying are hurtful and the impact on children and young people can be severe. At St Patrick's Catholic Primary School we aim to provide a safe, secure environment where all can learn without anxiety. We are committed to developing a whole school culture of respect for others and recognise the importance of the prevention of bullying. This policy aims to ensure there is a consistency of approach to prevention and in the response to any bullying incidents that might occur.

This policy also links to the school's Behaviour Policy, E Safety Policy and Acceptable Use Policy.

3. Legislation and Statutory Requirements

This policy is based on advice from the Department for Education (DfE) regarding:

- Behaviour and Discipline in Schools (2016)
- Preventing and Tackling Bullying (2017)
- Approaches to Preventing and Tackling Bullying (2018)

It has been written in accordance with recommendations in the following documents:

- The Equality Act (2010)
- Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice (2014)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2018)
- No Place for Bullying (Ofsted 2012)

4. Prevention

The school does not tolerate bullying of any kind and adopts the following preventive measures to minimise opportunities for bullying to occur:

- Children are taught that they have the right to be safe and are responsible for looking after others. They know how important it is to tell someone if they hear, see or know of any child being bullied, including themselves.
- Staff always listen and actively respond by investigating incidents.

- Personal, Health and Social Education (PHSE) is a priority for class teachers and is taught weekly in every class. Children are taught about different types of bullying within these lessons.
- Anti bullying assemblies, led by staff and pupils, are used to reinforce the message that bullying is wrong and always unacceptable.
- The organisation and staffing of unstructured times is reviewed and evaluated regularly to create more cooperative play space and variety in the environment.
- Behaviour concerns raised by children, staff and / or parents are logged in order to identify any patterns or persistent behavioural concerns.
- Positive language is a priority for all and staff are swift to tackle derogatory comments as well as unkind behaviour or tensions that may be building.
- Working closely with parents ensures consistent messages are delivered at home and school with regards to behavioural expectations.

If we discover that an act of bullying or intimidation has taken place, we act immediately to stop any further occurrences of such behaviour. We work hard to ensure that all children attend school free from fear.

5. Responsibilities

The prevention of bullying is the responsibility of all members of the school community and staff take all forms of bullying seriously.

Staff should:

- Use a range of methods within the classroom and around the school environment to establish a climate of trust and respect for all.
- Adopt a zero tolerance approach to inappropriate behaviour on the playground, following the school's behaviour policy at all times.
- Work closely with children who are struggling to behave appropriately to support them to make positive choices.
- Teachers should investigate any incidents or allegations of bullying, log concerns and speak to their Phase Leader, Deputy Headteacher or Headteacher as appropriate.
- Work closely with parents (of the perpetrator/s and victim) in the event of children being bullied.
- Provide bespoke support to victims of bullying, involving external agencies if appropriate.

Children should:

- Follow the school expectations as outlined in the Behaviour Policy.
- Share concerns with staff if they feel they are being bullied or know of someone else who is.

Parents should:

- Encourage their child to tell a member of staff if they are being bullied, and if the bullying continues they must keep on letting people know.
- Support the school in the implementation of this policy.
- Speak to the class teacher immediately if they have any concerns regarding bullying.

Governors should:

- Review, monitor and evaluate the implementation of this policy.
- Support the partnerships between home and school.

6. Monitoring and Review

The policy is monitored by the headteacher, who reports to the governors on request about the effectiveness of the policy.