

ANTI-BULLYING Statement

Rationale:

At Yerbury School 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 encouraged to tell the staff.

Objectives:

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

Definitions of Bullying

Definitions of Bullying vary, but must have three things in common:

- hurtful behaviour which is deliberate
- hurtful behaviour which is repeated
- hurtful behaviour from which it is difficult to defend oneself

School Procedures

1. Pupils must report any incidence of bullying to a member of staff, usually the Class Teacher.
2. All reported incidents of bullying will be investigated and taken seriously by staff members. A record will be kept of incidents and monitored by staff.
3. If bullying includes racist abuse, this will be recorded and kept on file.
4. Each pupil involved in an incident must be given an opportunity to talk and the discussion should remain focused on finding a solution to the problem and stopping the bullying recurring.
5. The class teacher will address issues through P.S.H.E lessons and/or Circle Time if an incident is not resolved.
6. The Headteacher must be informed of all reported incidents of bullying.
7. The parents of children who bully and those being bullied will be informed of an incident and the action that has taken place and asked to support strategies proposed to tackle the problem.
8. The child bullying will also be reminded of the possible consequences of bullying and the sanctions for repeated incidents will be clearly explained to him/her.

9. We will not call children 'a bully' but rather refer to the behaviour which the child displays as bullying. Instead we will work with the child to change their behaviour.
10. Persistent bullying may result in the child being excluded from school if no improvement in behaviour is seen.
11. Children will be encouraged to develop a strong sense of their own worth as human beings.

Some useful sites:

www.bullying.co.uk - for parents and children

www.beatbullying.org - for parents and children

www.childline.org.uk

ADVICE TO CHILDREN

WHAT IS BULLYING?

Bullying is when someone purposely and repeatedly tries to hurt, threaten, frighten or upset someone else.

Some of the ways people bully others are by:

- making remarks about people's looks, ability, size, age, colour, race, sex, clothes, their family, their belongings etc.
- calling people names
- teasing
- hitting
- pushing or shoving
- laughing at or making fun of
- threatening looks and gestures
- rude gestures
- demanding sweets, toys, money etc
- damaging other people's belongings
- telling people not to play with or be friends with someone
- cyber-bullying, which is any of the things mentioned above which can be done on technology, so your phone or online.

We will work together with you to help you understand the difference between bullying and 'falling out'.

WHAT CAN YOU DO IF YOU ARE BEING BULLIED?

Tell someone you trust. It could be

- Your parents or someone else in your family
- A teacher or any other adults in school.
- A friend at school

Don't be frightened to tell someone. If you want the bullying to stop you must tell someone. The adults will know what to do.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE ELSE IS BEING BULLIED?

Tell an adult.

It isn't telling tales or 'snitching' to tell about bullying. If you know bullying is going on and you don't do something you are helping the bullying. Don't put up with bullying amongst your friends.

People who bully sometimes like to show off to an audience - don't encourage them by watching, laughing or joining in. That also makes you part of the problem. Tell an adult instead.

THIS IS WHAT ADULTS AT YERBURY SCHOOL WILL DO IF YOU TELL THEM ABOUT BULLYING.

- They will listen to you
- They will get to the bottom of what is happening
- They will talk to you and put strategies and systems into place to help the bullying stop as soon as possible
- They will make sure that the person bullying understands that what they are doing is wrong
- They will try to find out why the person is bullying

.....and remember our school rule:

TREAT OTHERS AS YOU WANT TO BE TREATED.

This statement is a section of and should be read in conjunction with our Behaviour policy.