

Barham Church of England Primary School



Anti-bullying Policy

First approved	1.3.17
Reviewed	1.3.18
Date for next review	1.3 21

Barham Church of England Anti-Bullying Policy

This policy is based on DfE guidance “Preventing and Tackling Bullying. Advice for headteachers, staff and governing bodies” and supporting documents “Supporting children and young people who are bullied: advice for schools”, “Cyberbullying: advice for headteachers and school staff” and “Advice for parents and carers on cyberbullying” November 2014. It is recommended that schools read this guidance and share content with staff and parents/carers: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-and-tackling-bullying>

1) Objectives of this Policy

This policy outlines what Barham Church of England Primary School will do to prevent and tackle bullying. The policy has been drawn up through the involvement of the whole school community and we are committed to developing an anti-bullying culture whereby no bullying, including between adults or adults and children and young people will be tolerated.

2) Definition of bullying

Bullying is “Behaviour by an individual or a group, usually repeated over time that intentionally hurts another individual either physically or emotionally”. (DfE “Preventing and Tackling Bullying”, November 2014)

Bullying can include: name calling, taunting, mocking, making offensive comments; kicking; hitting; taking belongings; producing offensive graffiti; gossiping; excluding people from groups and spreading hurtful and untruthful rumours. This includes the same inappropriate and harmful behaviours expressed via digital devices (cyberbullying) such as the sending of inappropriate messages by phone, text, Instant Messenger, through websites and social media sites and apps, and sending offensive or degrading images by mobile phone or via the internet.

(Appendix A provides a guideline in establishing whether a child is experiencing bullying.)

3) Forms of bullying covered by this Policy

Bullying can happen to anyone. This policy covers all types of bullying including:

- Bullying related to race, religion or culture.
- Bullying related to SEND (Special Educational Needs or Disability).
- Bullying related to appearance or physical/mental health conditions.
- Bullying related to sexual orientation (homophobic bullying).
- Bullying of young carers, children in care or otherwise related to home circumstances.
- Sexist, sexual and transphobic bullying.
- Bullying via technology –“cyberbullying”

4) Preventing, identifying and responding to bullying

The school community will:

- Encourage each child to develop our five Christian values of compassion, thankfulness, service, humility and endurance.
- Create and support an inclusive environment which promotes a culture of mutual respect, consideration and care for others which will be upheld by all.
- Work with staff and outside agencies to identify all forms of prejudice-driven bullying.
- Actively provide systematic opportunities to develop pupils' social and emotional skills, including their resilience.
- Provide a range of approaches for pupils, staff and parents/carers to access support and report concerns.
- Challenge practice which does not uphold the values of tolerance, non-discrimination and respect towards others.
- Consider all opportunities for addressing bullying in all forms throughout the curriculum and supported with a range of approaches such as through displays, assemblies, peer support and the school/student council.
- Regularly update and evaluate our approaches to take into account the developments of technology and provide up-to-date advice and education to all members of the community regarding positive online behaviour.
- Train all staff to identify all forms of bullying, follow the school policy and procedures (including recording and reporting incidents).
- Proactively gather and record concerns and intelligence about bullying incidents and issues so as to effectively develop strategies to prevent bullying from occurring.
- Use a variety of techniques to resolve the issues between those who bully and those who have been bullied.
- Work with other agencies and the wider school community to prevent and tackle concerns.
- Celebrate success and achievements to promote and build a positive school ethos.
- Be encouraged to use social media responsibly.

5) Involvement of pupils

We will:

- Regularly canvas children and young people's views on the extent and nature of bullying.
- Ensure that all pupils know how to express worries and anxieties about bullying.
- Ensure that all pupils are aware of the range of sanctions which may be applied against those engaging in bullying.
- Involve pupils in anti-bullying campaigns in schools and embedded messages in the wider school curriculum.

- Publicise the details of help lines and websites.
- Offer support to pupils who have been bullied and to those who are bullying in order to address the problems they have.

6) Liaison with parents and carers

We will:

- Make sure that key information (including policies and named points of contact) about bullying is available to parents/carers in a variety of formats.
- Ensure that all parents/carers know who to contact if they are worried about bullying.
- Ensure all parents/carers know about our complaints procedure and how to use it effectively to raise concerns in an appropriate manner.
- Ensure all parents/carers know where to access independent advice about bullying.
- Work with all parents/carers and the local community to address issues beyond the school gates that give rise to bullying.
- Ensure that parents work with the school to role model positive behaviour for pupils, both on and offline.

7) Reporting incidents of bullying: Advice for parents/carers

(Please also read Appendix A)

- a) Details of bullying are reported to a member of staff (in the first incidence, the child's class teacher).
- b) The teacher/member of Senior Leadership Team will talk to all parties concerned to establish what happened and if the incident is considered bullying.
- c) A member of the Senior Leadership Team will talk to the parents of the victim and the parents of the child who has bullied separately. (Please be aware that we cannot discuss any other child but your own.)

8) Sanctions

Barham Church of England Primary School will apply sanctions to students who have been bullying others in order to show clearly that their behaviour is unacceptable. Such sanctions will be applied fairly, consistently and reasonably taking account of any additional needs that the students may have.

Possible sanctions (on a case by case basis) can include one or more of the following:

- Explanation why the inappropriate behaviour is unacceptable
- Restorative justice
- Missed playtimes
- Time out from the classroom
- Meeting with a member of the Senior Leadership Team and parent
- Pastoral support plan
- Fixed term exclusion

- Permanent exclusion

In each case the school will ensure parents are informed by telephone or face to face meeting. Details of any sanctions issued will be confidential.

9) Follow up

Attempts will be made to support both the victim and the child who has displayed bullying behaviour. Following any occurrence of bullying, pupils will be monitored closely to avoid a reoccurrence.

10) Links with other school policies and practices

This Policy links with a number of other school policies, practices and action plans including:

- Behaviour and discipline policy
- Complaints Policy
- Safeguarding and child protection policies
- Online Safety policy (e-safety)

11) Links to legislation

There are a number of pieces of legislation which set out measures and actions for schools in response to bullying as well as criminal law. These may include:

- The Education and Inspection Act 2006, 2011
- The Equality Act 2010
- The Children Act 1989
- Protection from Harassment Act 1997
- The Malicious Communications Act 1988
- Public Order Act 1986
- The Computer Misuse Act 1990

12) Anti-bullying organisations/websites

Anti-bullying Alliance	www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk
Act Against Bullying	http://www.actagainstbullying.org/
StopBullying	https://www.stopbullying.gov/
Bullying Online	www.bullying.co.uk
Bullying UK	http://www.bullying.co.uk
Child Exploitation and Online Protection (C.E.O.P)	http://ceop.police.uk
Parentline Plus	0808 800 2222
Childline	0800 1111

13) Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of:

- School Governors to take a lead role in monitoring and reviewing this policy.
- Governors, the Headteacher, Senior Managers, Teaching and Non-Teaching staff to be aware of this policy and implement it accordingly.
- The Headteacher to communicate the policy to the school community and to ensure that disciplinary measures are applied fairly, consistently and reasonably.
- Staff to support and uphold the policy
- Parents/carers to support their children and work in partnership with the school
- Pupils to abide by the policy.

The named Governor with lead responsibility for this policy is: Mr Peter Williams

The named member of staff with lead responsibility for this policy is: Mrs Alison Higgins

Appendix A

Whenever a bullying incident is discovered, we will go through a number of steps. The exact nature of each step will be adapted to suit the nature and severity of the incident, and the response of those involved.

Before progressing it may be useful for parents/carers to consider the following:

- Has the incident with the same person or people occurred several times within a reasonably short period of time?
- Is it a disagreement or the result of play which has got out of hand?
- Is it a 'falling out with friends' matter?
- Are you sure your child has not had at least partial responsibility for the incident?
- Can you recognise a pattern to the incidents?
- Have you noticed any change in your child's behaviour?

Although incidents may not be bullying, they should always be followed up thoroughly in the school and dealt with appropriately. Any report of bullying will be taken seriously, investigated and actioned. However, we cannot report back to the parent/carer of any child except their own.