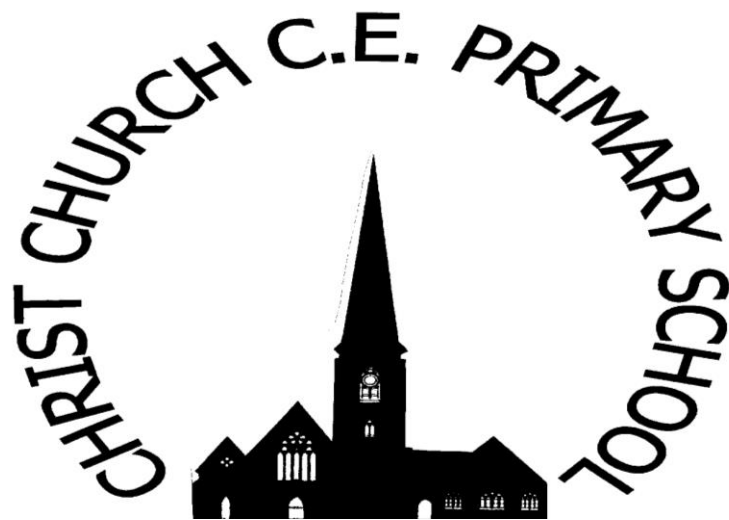


**Christ Church C of E
Primary School**

**ANTI-BULLYING
POLICY**



Rationale

Christ Church is a caring school with a Christian ethos and as such is 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 in 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 the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

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

Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying?

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect. Pupils who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving.

Schools have a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

Objectives of this Policy

- 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.

Prevention

At Christ Church we foster a Christian ethos of care and respect for each other. We endeavour to prevent bullying using various strategies.

These include:

- school rules and *Good to be Green* scheme;
- discussing and agreeing classroom rules;
- reading and signing the home school agreement;
- teaching positive behaviour themes across the school including bullying;
- role-play;
- having discussions about bullying and why it matters;
- school questionnaires;
- annual anti-bullying week involving workshops;
- themes in collective worship;
- buddy schemes;
- school council and class voice boxes;
- nurture group.

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

1. Report bullying incidents to staff. There are a range of ways that children can report bullying, e.g. use of voice box.
2. A victim of bullying will be supported and reassured.
3. The incidents will be recorded by staff and reported to the head teacher.
4. Parents should be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem
5. If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted
6. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly.
7. Sanctions will be clarified and agreed. Targets will be set in joint discussion with the bully and their parents.
8. An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour.

Helping the Victim

1. Victim will be listened to and offered daily support from a named adult in school and offered participation in the nurture group.
2. The victim will be encouraged to keep a diary/ make notes of past bullying and any further bullying that might take place.
3. Supply staff will be made aware of bullying incidents in school.
4. There will be regular review meetings- initially weekly, then monthly and termly in order to ensure bullying has ceased.
5. The victim and their family will be provided with a list of useful contacts

Childline 08001111

www.childline.org.uk

www.bullying.co.uk

www.DCSF.co.uk – Don't Suffer in Silence

A google search on bullying will produce many other resources

Helping the bully

- Discussion
- Discovering why the person became involved
- Establishing the wrong and the need to change
- Informing parents/ carers to help change the attitude of the person
- Nurture group participation
- *Anger Busters* Programme
- Referral to outside agencies if needed, e.g. Behaviour Support Service &/or CAHMS
- PSA [Parent Support Advisor] liaison between home and school

Sanctions

- Official warning to cease offending/ parents informed and records kept.
- Signing a behaviour contract – child/ parent/ head teacher
- Pupil will go on report with agreed targets and time scale signed by child/ parent / head teacher
- Loss of responsibilities and privileges
- Loss of playtime(s)

- Exclusion from certain areas of the school premises including class and after school clubs for a fixed term period
- Incidents will be recorded on Newcastle Arc web site
- Exclusion from school – minor fixed term
- Exclusion from school major fixed term
- Permanent exclusion

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.

Monitoring, evaluation and review

The school will review this policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness through monitoring incidents.