

Luttons Community Primary School
and
Sherburn Church of England Primary School

Anti-bullying Policy



SHERBURN VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED SCHOOL and LUTTONS COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

This document reflects both schools Mission Statements and aims:

Sherburn CE VC School's Mission Statement is - **'Working together, putting children first within our Christian family'** Our aim is to **'Serve our community by providing an education of the highest quality for children of all faiths and none, within the context of Christian beliefs and practice. We believe in *working together* to make sure the school is a safe, secure, friendly and purposeful place where children are safe, encouraged, challenged and supported to do their best and learn'**.

The Religious Ethos at Sherburn V C School is 'Christian values underpin the work of Sherburn CE VC Primary School and these influence our care of the individual. The three priority values are friendship, truthfulness and forgiveness.

These support this policy wholeheartedly:

- Forgiveness because we learn from everything;
- Truthfulness to help us to be open; and
- Friendship because we call God our friend.'

Luttons C P School's Mission Statement is - **'Together we care, learn and grow'**. Our aim is to **'Nurture, support and mentor everyone as they strive for excellence'**

This document provides a framework for the creation of a happy, secure and orderly environment in which everyone can work.

The Law

The School Standards and Framework Act 1998: Section 61 (amended) is the principal legislation, and requires headteachers to determine measures to prevent all forms of bullying.

In addition, the Education Act 2002 and its Regulations (e.g. the Education (Pupil Exclusions and Appeals (Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2002, SI 2002/3178) are relevant to exclusions.

We aim to establish a safe school, where bullying is not tolerated. This includes racist, sexist, faith targeted, homophobic, biphobic, transphobic bullying and additional needs or disability discrimination. We want all our children to be happy at school, and to be relaxed at home during the evening, and not in a position where they are frightened to come to school, or worrying about particular activities or times of the day. Playtimes and lunchtimes are vulnerable times of the day and are closely monitored by school staff.

When bullying is reported

When bullying is reported to an adult, staff would usually respond in line with the steps in our behaviour policy. This involves class teachers in the first instance (see behaviour policy).

Response – sanctions

Sometimes, there are personality clashes between children, or on-going feuds between parents in the community which then affects our pupils in school. Notes are kept on file to ensure that all staff are aware of any incidents that affect children's behaviour and relationships.

Staff should always distinguish between one-off incidents of unkindness and on-going systematic acts of bullying. Usually, children respond to intervention from class teachers and the situation is resolved. Where there is persistent verbal or physical abuse the following steps are taken:

- Both children's parents are involved immediately and support is sought from the bully's parents
- Following the initial meeting with the bully's parents, parents have usually already agreed in advance to withdraw privileges from the children at home eg. stopping child going to rugby / tai chi, as such punishments are often very effective
- Parents are invited to add comments to their child's behaviour monitoring record if they feel the child is being intimidated / too frightened to record an honest account
- Children are encouraged to record positive behaviour too
- It is usually necessary to keep this behaviour monitoring record going for a week or two.
- The sheets are kept as a record
- The ultimate sanction for repeated episodes of bullying or for extreme incidents of bullying is exclusion, and this sanction is taken at the headteacher's discretion.

Monitoring

- Class teachers record bullying / intervention in their class behaviour book

Times outside of school hours

- Instances outside the school premises and times are the responsibility of parents.

Bullying – guidance for children

Tell your mum or dad.....or

Tell the dinner lady.....or

Tell your teacher.....or

Tell your teaching assistant.....

If you are being bullied at school you must

be clear about:

- > what has happened to you
- > how often it has happened
- > who was involved
- > who saw what was happening
- > where it happened
- > what you have done about it already

If you find it difficult to talk to anyone at school or at home, ring [ChildLine](#) freephone **0800 400 222**, or write: Freepost 1111, London N1 0BR. The phone call or letter is free, this is a confidential helpline



Bullying – guidance for parents

Bullying is unacceptable and parents, teachers and others working with children all share responsibility for tackling it.

Identifying the problem and dealing with it

One of the most difficult times in a child's school life can be if they are bullied. Bullying can be defined as deliberately hurtful behaviour, repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. The three main types of bullying are:

- physical (e.g. hitting, kicking, theft)
- verbal (e.g. name calling, racist remarks, being called a chicken)
- indirect (e.g. spreading rumours, excluding someone from social groups)
- cyber bullying (e.g. sending hurtful text, or email other electronic messages, or spreading rumours by the same methods)

Signs to watch out for

Parents and families are often the first to detect symptoms of bullying, though sometimes school nurses or doctors may first suspect that a child has been bullied. Common symptoms include headaches, stomach aches, anxiety and irritability. It can be helpful to ask questions about progress and friends at school; how break times and lunchtimes are spent; and whether your child is facing problems or difficulties at school. You should trust your instincts if your child is acting out of character at home and contact the school immediately.

What you should do if your child is being bullied

If your child tells you they are experiencing bullying at school, there are certain people you can speak with in order to resolve the problem. Initially, you should speak to the class teacher, and if you feel the situation is continuing you should take up your concerns with the Headteacher. If you still feel concerned you should write to the head teacher and express your concerns. If that does not help, you could then write to the Chair of Governors, and then to the local education authority (LA). If the problem still remains unresolved, the Department for Education and Skills can investigate the allegations with the school. You could also ring the helpline at Parentline Plus on 0808 800 2222 for general information

Help your child's school deal with bullying

Parents have an important role to play in helping schools deal with bullying. What you can do to help is:

- watch out for signs that your child is being bullied, or bullying others.
- discourage your child from using bullying behaviour at home or elsewhere.
- Support the school's anti-bullying policy

If a child is being bullied, they can get free advice and support by calling ChildLine on 0800 11 11, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Another useful site is [Bullying Online](#) [External Site].

If your child is bullying

Often parents are not aware that their child is the one involved in bullying. This can be embarrassing for you, but it is important to remember not to become angry with your child. Try to stop their bullying by:

- talking with your child. Let them know what they are doing is unacceptable and making other children unhappy.
- discourage other family members from bullying behaviour, or from using aggression or force to get what they want.
- show your child how they can join in with other children without bullying.
- make an appointment to see your child's teacher and explain the problems your child is experiencing.
- discuss with the teacher how you and the school can stop them bullying.
- regularly check with your child how things are going at school.
- give your child lots of praise and encouragement when they are co-operative or kind to other people.

Find out more information and advice on how you can deal with bullying from the Department for Education and Skills' [anti-bullying website](#) [External Site].

Information and contacts

Bullying Online

Website: www.bullying.co.uk [External Site]

ChildLine

Studd Street
London N1 0QW
Tel: 0800 1111
Website: www.childline.org.uk

Children's Legal Centre

20 Compton Terrace
London N1 2UN
Advice line (weekdays 14:00 - 17:00) Tel: 020 7359 6251
Fax: 020 7354 9963
Publications and free advice, by phone or letter, on legal issues

Dont Suffer in Silence

DfES website on bullying
Website: www.dfes.gov.uk/bullying

Kidscape

2 Grosvenor Gardens
London SW1W 0DH
Tel: 020 7730 3300
Website: www.kidscape.org.uk [External Site]
Publications and advice. Bullying counsellor available Mondays and Wednesdays.

Parentline plus

Anti-bullying Policy
Date reviewed: 28.11.2017
Next Policy Review Date: Autumn 2020

Helpline: 0808 800 2222

Website: www.parentlineplus.org.uk [External Site]

Appendix A

.....School

Behaviour record Name: _____ Wk. beg. _____

| | Before school | Session 1 | Break | Session 2 | Lunch | Afternoon | After school |
|-----------|---------------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|--------------|
| Monday | | | | | | | |
| Tuesday | | | | | | | |
| Wednesday | | | | | | | |
| Thursday | | | | | | | |
| Friday | | | | | | | |

Parental comments: