

Southwold Primary School and Early Years' Centre

Anti-Bullying Policy 2024 - 26



Objectives of this Policy

- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents have an understanding of what bullying is.
- All governors and teaching and non-teaching staff 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.
- That it will be understood that bullying will not be tolerated.
- That it will be understood that everyone needs to take responsibility for bullying

What We Believe About Bullying

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.

What is Bullying?

Bullying is hurting another person deliberately and persistently over time. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

What forms does bullying take?

- Name calling – using bad language
- Physical
- Destroying other people's property
- Persistent mental cruelty
- Racist remarks
- Spreading rumours
- Crushing dreams
- Discrimination
- They do it secretly
- They do it because of personalities
- Personal remarks
- Saying unkind things about your family
- Hurting feelings
- Cyber bullying

To clarify; we understand that 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 focusing on, the issue of sexuality
- Verbal name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- Cyber All areas of internet ,such as email and internet chat room misuse
- Mobile threats by text messaging and calls
- Misuse of associated technology , i.e. camera and 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.
- So that people will know what to do and bullying can be dealt with
- To make our school a safer place
- To stop people being bullied and help the bullies become better people
- So that everyone is confident about school

Signs and Symptoms

We think that pupils may indicate by signs or behaviour they are being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and that they should investigate if a pupil's behaviour

Changes in that a pupil is:

- Frightened of walking to or from school
- Doesn't want to come to school
- Is alone all the time
- Is not doing well in lessons
- Doesn't want to talk to anyone
- Is aggressive
- Shows unusual behaviour
- Appears depressed
- Becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence
- Starts stammering
- Feels ill in the morning
- Comes home with clothes torn or books damaged
- Has possessions which are damaged or " go missing"
- Asks for money or starts stealing money
- Has dinner or other monies continually "lost"

- Has unexplained cuts or bruises
- Is bullying other children or siblings
- Stops eating
- Is frightened to say what's wrong

What do we do at Southwold to prevent bullying?

- School Discipline Policy
- School and Class Rules
- Behaviour Leaders
- Pupil Leadership
- Displays
- Star of the Week certificates in Superstars Assembly to make children feel confident
- Learning Mentor, as well as all staff, to talk to
- Reflections in PSHE lessons
- Circle Time
- PSHE assemblies
- Work and activities during Anti-Bullying Week

What happens at our school if bullying is discovered?

- It is important to tell someone so that the school can help
- Report bullying incidents to staff
- Pupils will be able to write down what has happened on a Behaviour Reflection Form
- We will bring the children together and ask them how they are feeling and ask them to listen to each other and try to reach a way forward
- The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying are investigated by the class teacher or Senior Teacher
- In cases of bullying incidents that are clearly evidenced, these will be recorded by class teachers in the class behaviour log and head teacher or Senior Teacher will be informed
- In serious cases parents will be informed and will be asked to come into a meeting to discuss the problem
- When necessary, governors will be informed by the Head teacher
- The school may arrange a meeting for both bullied child and child accused of bullying and their parents/ carers with a mediator to try to resolve the situation
- If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted by the Head teacher

Procedures and Support may include:

- Emotional Literacy individual or small group support
- Learning/Pastoral Mentor support
- Punishments will be tailored to age of child and circumstances. Details of punishments may be confidential.
- The person doing the bullying may be asked to genuinely apologise when they understand how they have hurt the person being bullied

- In serious cases of bullying, exclusion will be considered by the Head Teacher with the governors.
- After the incident/incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored by Class Teacher and Senior Staff to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

This policy cannot stand alone. It has links with:

- Discipline Policy
- Equality, Inclusion and Race Policies

Date of Review: September 2026