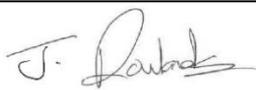




## Anti-Bullying Policy

Signed by Chair of RAP Committee during COVID-19	
Signed Acting Headteacher	
Date	July 2020
Review Date	July 2021

# ***Latchford St James Cof E Primary School***

## ***Anti-Bullying Policy***

### **Statement of Intent**

At Latchford St James CofE Primary 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 expected to tell the staff, a friend, a school councillor, or parent who then informs the headteacher.

### **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
- HBT              Homophobic, Transphobic and Biphobic - 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. It is a fundamental British value to live in harmony with our neighbours, regardless of any perceived differences between us. Pupils who are bullying will be taught different ways of behaving.

Our school aims 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.

### **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
- begs to be driven to school
- changes their usual routine
- is unwilling to go to school
- 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
- 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. All children will be made aware that they need to report all incidents that have caused them upset to a member of staff.
2. All members of staff to log reported incidents on the incident form using the appropriate code.
3. SLT will regularly monitor the forms to see if any repeated patterns occur.
4. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying will be investigated in order for the bullying to be stopped quickly
5. In serious cases parents should be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem and go through our Anti-bullying policy.
6. If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted

## **Outcomes**

- 1) The bully (bullies) will be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences may take place such as isolation, detention, fixed term exclusion from playing out.
- 2) Interventions will be delivered to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour.
- 3) In very serious cases, suspension or even exclusion will be considered
- 4) After the incident / incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored carefully to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

## **Prevention**

We will use methods and materials for helping children to prevent bullying. As and when appropriate, these may include:

- Class and school rules
- signing a home school agreement
- writing stories or poems or drawing pictures about bullying e.g. social stories
- reading stories about bullying or having them read to a class or assembly
- making up role-plays and drama activities to explore bullying issues
- circle time activities and having discussions about bullying and why it matters
- a programme of activities for anti-bullying week
- e-safety policy