


Anti-Bullying Policy

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Hart Plain Junior School Anti-Bullying Policy

Our Vision:

At Hart Plain Junior School we foster a lifetime love of learning, where children acquire the knowledge, skills, resilience and heart to pursue and achieve their individual dreams.

Our Core Values:

Integrity - We do the right thing and make responsible choices even when it is difficult.

Happiness - We know what makes us happier and how to make our community a better place for all.

Aspiration - We strive to succeed and to be the very best we can in order to achieve our goals.

Respect - We treat others as we would like them to treat us and celebrate our differences.

Courage - We have the bravery to tackle the challenges of life and face them head on.

Our school is a place where every person has the right to be themselves, to be included and to learn in a safe and happy environment. Everyone in our school is equal and treats each other with respect and kindness.

Aims and Purpose of the Policy

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable and will not be tolerated at Hart Plain Junior School. At our school the safety, welfare and well-being of all pupils and staff is a key priority. We take all incidences of bullying seriously and it is our duty as a school community to take measures to prevent and tackle any bullying, harassment or discrimination.

We actively promote values of respect and equality and work to ensure that difference and diversity is celebrated across the whole school community. We want to enable our pupils to become responsible citizens and to prepare them for life in 21st century Britain. These values reflect those that will be expected of our pupils by society, when they enter secondary school and beyond in the world of work or further study.

We are committed to improving our school's approach to tackling bullying and regularly monitor, review and assess the impact of our preventative measures.

Related policies:

- *Behaviour policy*

1. Definition of Bullying:

Bullying is hurtful or unkind behaviour which is deliberate and repeated. Bullying can be carried out by an individual or a group of people towards an individual or group. The **STOP** acronym can be applied to define bullying – **Several Times On Purpose**

The nature of bullying can be:

- **Physical** – such as hitting or physically intimidating someone, or using inappropriate or unwanted physical contact towards someone.
- **Attacking property** – such as damaging, stealing or hiding someone’s possessions
- **Verbal** – such as name calling, spreading rumours about someone, using derogatory or offensive language or threatening someone
- **Psychological** – such as deliberately excluding or ignoring people
- **Cyber** – such as using text, email or other social media to write or say hurtful things about someone

Bullying can be based on any of the following things:

- Race
- Religion or belief
- Culture or class
- Gender
- Sexual orientation
- Gender identity/expression
- Special educational needs or disability
- Appearance or health conditions
- Related to home or other personal situation
- Related to another vulnerable group of people (e.g. young carers)

No form of bullying will be tolerated and all incidents will be taken seriously.

2. Reporting Bullying

PUPILS WHO ARE BEING BULLIED: If a pupil is being bullied they are encouraged to not retaliate but to tell someone they trust about it such as a friend, family member or trusted adult. They are also encouraged to report any bullying incidents in school:

- Report to a teacher
- Tell a buddy who in turn can help them tell a teacher or staff
- Tell any other adult in school, such as lunchtime supervisors, Learning Support Assistants or the school office
- Tell an adult at home
- Report anonymously
- Call Childline to speak with someone in confidence on 0800 1111

STAFF: All school staff, both teaching and non-teaching have a duty to report bullying, to be vigilant to the signs of bullying and to play an active role in the school’s measures to prevent bullying. If staff are aware of bullying, they should reassure the pupils involved, record the incident on CPOMS under the ‘bullying’ tab and inform their class teacher.

SENIOR STAFF: The Senior Leadership Team and the head teacher have overall responsibility for ensuring that the anti-bullying policy is followed by all members of staff and that the school upholds its duty to promote the safety and well-being of all young people.

PARENTS AND CARERS: Parents and carers should look out for potential signs of bullying such as distress, lack of concentration, feigning illness or other unusual behaviour. Parents and carers should encourage their child not to retaliate and support and encourage them to report the bullying. Parents and carers can report an incident of bullying to the school either in person, or by phoning or emailing the school office or a member of staff.

PUPILS: Pupils should not take part in any kind of bullying and should watch out for signs of bullying among their peers. They should never be bystanders to incidents of bullying, but should offer support to the victim and, if possible, help them to tell a trusted adult.

3. **Responding to bullying**

When bullying has been reported, the following actions will be taken:

- Staff will record the incident centrally on CPOMS
- Designated school staff will monitor information recorded on CPOMS, analysing and evaluating the results
- Designated school staff will produce termly reports summarising the information, which the head teacher will report to the governing body
- Staff will offer support to the target of the bullying in discussion with the pupil's class teacher. Individual meetings will then be held with any target of bullying to devise a plan of action that ensures they are made to feel safe and reassured that the bullying is not their fault.
- Staff will pro-actively respond to the bully who may require support. They will discuss with the target's class teacher to devise a plan of action
- Staff will decide whether to inform parents or carers and where necessary involve them in any plans of action
- Staff will assess whether any other authorities (such as police or the local authority) need to be involved, particularly when actions take place outside of school

4. **Bullying outside of school**

Bullying is unacceptable and will not be tolerated, whether it takes place inside or outside of school. Bullying can take place on the way to and from school, before or after school hours, at the weekends or during the holidays, or in the wider community. The nature of cyber bullying in particular means that it can impact on pupils' well-being beyond the school day. Parents, carers and pupils must be vigilant to bullying outside of school and may wish to report incidents to school staff. Whilst we will investigate incidents which occur outside school hours if necessary, it may not always be appropriate to respond in line with the school's behaviour policy.

5. **Derogatory language**

Derogatory or offensive language is not acceptable and will not be tolerated even in casual circumstances. This type of language can take any of the forms of bullying listed in our definition of bullying. It will be challenged by staff and recorded and monitored on CPOMS and follow up actions and sanctions, if appropriate, will be taken for pupils and staff using any such language.

6. **Prejudice-based incidents**

A prejudice-based incident is a one-off incident of unkind or hurtful behaviour that is motivated by a prejudice or negative attitudes, beliefs or views towards a protected characteristic or minority group. It can be targeted towards an individual or group of people and have a significant impact on those targeted. All prejudice-based incidents are taken

seriously and recorded and monitored in school, with the head teacher regularly reporting incidents to the governing body. This not only ensures that all incidents are dealt with accordingly, but also helps to prevent bullying as it enables targeted anti-bullying interventions.

7. School initiatives to prevent and tackle bullying

We use a range of measures to prevent and tackle bullying including:

- A child-friendly anti-bullying policy. This is shared with pupils and displayed in classrooms. It ensures that all pupils understand and uphold the anti-bullying policy.
- The RSHE curriculum includes opportunities for pupils to understand about different types of bullying and what they can do to respond to and prevent bullying
- School assemblies help raise pupils' awareness of bullying and derogatory language
- Difference and diversity are celebrated across the school through diverse displays, assemblies, books and images.
- Celebrating diversity and difference is at the forefront of the RSHE text-led curriculum and embedded throughout the whole curriculum.
- The school values of integrity and respect are embedded across the curriculum to ensure that it is as inclusive as possible.
- Stereotypes are challenged by staff and pupils across the school
- Playground buddies and prefects offer support to all pupils, including those who may have been the target of bullying
- Pupils are continually involved in developing school-wide anti-bullying initiatives through consultation with the Young Governors
- Working with parents and carers and in partnership with community organisations to tackle bullying, where appropriate

8. Training

The head teacher is responsible for ensuring that all school staff, both teaching and non-teaching (including midday supervisors, caretakers and librarians) receive regular training on all aspects of the anti-bullying policy.

9. Monitoring and reviewing

The head teacher is responsible for reporting to the governing body (and the local authority where applicable) on how the policy is being enforced and upheld, via the termly report. The governors are in turn responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of the policy via the termly report and by in-school monitoring such as learning walks and focus groups with pupils.

The policy is reviewed every 12 months, in consultation with the whole school community including staff, pupils, parents, carers and governors.