

PRIESTLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL
ANTI-BULLYING POLICY
Reviewed Spring 2017



Philosophy

“No child should know the indignity and distress of suffering in silence because of bullying.”

Ivan Lewis Nov 2003

Principles

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 Priestley. At Priestley we follow the definition of bullying that has been adopted by Wiltshire’s Children and Young People’s Trust Board and Wiltshire’s Anti-Bullying Steering Group is:

‘Behaviour by an individual or group, usually repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally.’

(This is also the DCSF’s definition, from: Safe to Learn: Embedding anti-bullying work in schools. Department for Children, Schools and Families, 2009)

Bullying can take many forms such as:

- Emotional - 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 - focussing on the issue of sexuality;
- Verbal - name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing;
- Cyber - all areas of the internet (e.g. email & internet chat room misuse); mobile phone threats by text messaging & calls; misuse of associated technology (e.g. camera & video facilities).

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. This Policy should also be read in conjunction with the school’s Single Equalities Policy & PSHE Policy.

Procedures

Preventative strategies

At Priestley we have a whole-school approach to developing pupils’ social and emotional skills; rewards and celebration strategies for good social skills; regular opportunities for children of all ages to mix during lesson time as well as on the playground; peer support through trained peer mediator on the playgrounds; regularly reviewing school rules through assemblies and class circle time; the school council developing a child friendly school-specific anti-bullying leaflet; individual support and/or small-group work for pupils related to social and emotional skills.

The school’s curriculum offers regular opportunities for bullying to be addressed in the classroom, issues around cyberbullying, homophobic, sexual, racist, physical, emotional and verbal bullying are addressed as part of the PSHE/SEAL & ICT curriculum.

Procedures

- Pupils/parents/carers/staff members report bullying incidents to either the child’s class teacher or directly to the Headteacher.
- All cases of bullying (as defined by the school’s definition of bullying) will be recorded by staff in the school’s ‘Bullying Log’
- In serious cases parents/carers should be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem;
- The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying will be investigated and bullying stopped quickly;
- An attempt will be made to help the bully/bullies change their behaviour;
- Support will be available for the person being bullied;

- In serious incidents the situation will be monitored by staff to ensure that the bullying has stopped permanently.
- All outcomes for both victim & bully will be recorded in the 'Bullying Log'
- In very serious bullying cases the school reserves the right to suspend or expel a pupil who has been involved in a very serious incident/s of bullying another pupil/member of staff.

Should a member of staff feel that they are themselves being bullied or they are witnessing the bullying of another adult in school these need also be reported to the Headteacher and investigated in line with the school's Whistle Blowing Policy. Should any members of staff have any concerns about the Headteacher these should be shared with the Chair of Governors.

It is also useful to bear in mind that Priestley Primary School follows DCSF's advice "that sanctions are applied fairly, proportionately, consistently and reasonably, taking account of any special education needs (SEN) or disabilities that pupils may have and taking into consideration the needs of vulnerable children. Bullying by children with disabilities or SEN is no more acceptable than bullying by other children and it should be made clear that their actions are wrong and appropriate sanctions are imposed.

Performance

This policy will be reviewed in line with the school Behaviour Policy & Whistle Blowing Policy annually and the Single Equalities Policy & PSHE Policy tri-annually.

Incidents of Bullying recorded in the Bully Log will be reported termly to Governors in the Headteacher Report.

**ALL SAFEGAURDING POLICIES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN RELATION TO EACH OTHER AT ALL TIMES.
(Safeguarding, Child Protection, Prevent, Internet Safety, Acceptable Usage, Anti-Bullying, Behaviour, Physical Intervention, First Aid, Intimate Care, Health & Safety, Fire Safety, Safer Recruitment, Off-Site Visits, Whistle Blowing, Complaints Policies)**

To be reviewed Spring 2021