



Ashton CEVC Primary School

Anti-Bullying Policy

Introduction

Ashton CEVC Primary School aims to provide children with an exciting, broad and balanced curriculum that will instil a love of learning. Our approach enables all children to become lifelong learners by developing transferable skills to equip them to succeed in a competitive world.

A strong Christian ethos permeates through our daily lives ensuring our pupils are cared for in a safe, nurturing environment within our small community. Everyone is valued as an individual and helped to develop and progress in their own unique way within a Christian environment.

Our vision, 'Each Valued, Each Talented, Each Unique, Valuing All God's children' is at the core of everything we do. The curriculum we offer is not merely academic, but embraces the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all pupils and is deeply rooted in our vision that:

'All things are possible for one who believes' Mark 9 v23 .

We believe in the "whole child" and are committed to children's wider wellbeing through our creative inclusive curriculum, which is driven by our spiritual values.

Our curriculum is designed to spark curiosity in young minds through carefully planned opportunities for pupils to acquire, apply and master their knowledge and skills in a unique learning environment.

We know that a child who feels happy, safe and secure will have the confidence to try their best and achieve in all that they do. We endeavour to provide all children with the knowledge, skills and environment in which to thrive. We define progress as the widening and deepening of essential knowledge, skills, understanding and behaviours.

The ethos of our school is aimed at helping all children to develop respect for themselves and each other to become increasingly responsible for their own actions and to be aware of and sensitive to the needs of others. Besides a respect for persons, all members of the school community are encouraged to share a respect for property, to have a strong sense of right and wrong and to have a caring attitude for the world in which we live.

Rationale

'Children have the right to be taught in a safe, caring atmosphere. Teachers and parents must ensure that this happens' (Elton Report).

Bullying is repeated harassment or aggressive acts which cause hurt to another. The hurt can be either physical or psychological. It can be inflicted by one child or a group of children. Bullying makes a child feel unsafe because he or she has no choice, no control and there is no time limit to it.

Bullying can be:

- **Physical:** pushing, hitting, pinching, kicking and other forms of violence.
- **Verbal:** name calling, teasing, threatening, spreading rumours.
- **Emotional:** exclusion from any activity, ignoring or isolating, laughing at or ridiculing someone, forcing someone to do something against their own will, taking or damaging possessions.
- **Cyber:** using text, email or web space to write or say hurtful things about someone
- **AI :** the use of "deep fakes" using artificial intelligence to create images, video or audio hoaxes that look real.
- **Other:** attacking or abusing someone because of their religion, gender, sexuality, disability, appearance or ethnic or racial origin.

Children at Ashton CEVC Primary School have the right to feel safe all the time. We will not tolerate bullying.

The following is Ashton CEVC Primary School's approach to dealing with bullying incidents and the procedures to deal with such incidents.

Prevention

- Through our Personal, Social, Health and Education and Citizenship lessons, RE lessons, Circle Time and school's collective worship themes, we aim to develop skills for the child to maintain their personal safety and build positive relationships with others as well as raising self-esteem.
- Pupils will be encouraged to 'tell' when they witness bullying and they will be clear about the responsibility of being a bystander.
- The National Anti-bullying week is a focus for assembly, with follow-up in each class.
- Through the core values of our school, our children should become 'considerate, respectful and aware members of society'.

Coping Strategies

Coping with bullying is addressed in our PHSE lessons and assemblies. Children are given strategies to deal with bullying and are strongly encouraged to talk with an adult about any incidents where they feel threatened verbally or physically.

Procedures

All staff, including teaching assistants and mid-day supervisors, are vigilant in preventing bullying. All reported incidents are taken seriously and the following approaches may be used, dependent on the type and severity of the bullying:

- Interview perpetrator and make clear the seriousness of their actions.
- Interview victim and suggest they keep a written log of incidents.
- All incidents to be reported to the Executive Headteacher or School Lead.
- School's Behaviour Policy procedures and sanctions to be implemented.
- Class teacher to monitor the situation.

Written logs of incidents which are perceived as bullying are logged on CPOMS.

If bullying persists or the same child is responsible for a number of incidents involving different children, then the following actions may be taken:

- Executive Headteacher or School Lead interviews perpetrator and contacts his/her parents.
- Use of internal sanctions.
- Outside agencies, Executive Headteacher, School Lead, Class teacher, parents and child involved in developing pastoral support.
- Fixed-term Exclusion.
- Permanent Exclusion.

If an incident of bullying is severe, a fixed-term exclusion can be immediately enforced in relation to the perpetrator.

Depending on the severity of the incident, the perpetrator could be registered at the relevant stage on the SEN register and/or a Pastoral Support Programme implemented, regardless of previous history of incidents or procedures followed.

Named Person

The Executive Headteacher will be informed and keep a record of all bullying incidents.

Recording Incidents

All incidents of bullying are to be recorded on CPOMS and cross-referenced to perpetrator(s) and victim(s). The Executive Headteacher will identify and analyse patterns of bullying.

Equal Opportunities

All our children must have equal access to a safe environment. They should not be disadvantaged in any way because of their age, attainment, gender, religious or ethnic background, physical capability or competence of English.

Staff Training and Support

It is important that all staff have knowledge of the procedures and strategies involved in dealing with bullying. Training and support is provided when necessary.

Parental Involvement

We understand that providing an atmosphere that discourages bullying is a partnership between parents and the school. Parents will be informed of behaviour incidents which involve bullying.

Associated Policies

The following policies all link with the anti-bullying policy:

- Child Protection Policy
- Pupil Behaviour Policy
- Equality Policy

We have adopted the Northamptonshire County Council’s Anti-Harassment, Discrimination and Bullying at Work Policy and Procedure.

Reviewed January 2024

Next review January 2026

Signed

Chair of Governors 

Date 26/03/2024