

## **Anti-bullying**

### Definition of bullying

Bullying is the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. It can happen face-to-face or through cyberspace, and comes in many different forms:

Verbal: Name calling, persistent teasing, mocking, taunting and threats.

Physical: Any form of physical violence, intimidating behaviour, theft or the intentional damage of possessions. This includes hitting, kicking and pushing.

Emotional: Excluding, tormenting, ridiculing, humiliation, setting people up and spreading rumours.

Cyber: **Cyber bullying** is the misuse of digital technologies or communications to bully a person or a group, typically through messages or actions that are threatening and/or intended to cause offence, anxiety or humiliation.

Our school has the responsibility for the personal and social welfare of our pupils which includes ensuring that no child is bullied. Bullying is a highly distressing and damaging form of abuse and it will not be tolerated in our school. All staff endeavour at all times to be vigilant to the possibility of bullying occurring and will take steps to stop it happening, to protect and reassure the victim and to discipline the bully. Parents of both victim and bully will be personally contacted by the school Principal immediately bullying behaviour is identified.

Any complaint made by a parent that alleges that their child is, or may be, being bullied will be noted and will be fully investigated by the class teacher and action will be immediately taken to protect the victim. Action includes careful monitoring, both in class and on the playground, encouraging other children to play with/support the child

The parents of the child who is carrying out bullying behaviour will be personally informed by the class teacher of the investigation and will be told of the sanctions which will take place for their child. These sanctions will include: careful monitoring and discussion with the offending child, loss of privileges, and may result in reduction of attendance hours at the discretion of the Principal and Board of Governors. A report of the incident and the actions taken will be placed on the child's file.

The behaviour of this child will be carefully monitored until the staff is satisfied that the problem has stopped.

If a pupil's bullying behavior persists, measures will be taken in accordance with the "Positive School Behaviour & Anti Bullying Policy".