



# Anti Bullying Policy

Written by	S. Jackson
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## **Grangetown Primary School**

### **ANTI-BULLYING POLICY**

#### **Statement of Principles**

At Grangetown we believe that every child has the right to learn in a safe, secure and stimulating environment, in which we foster a caring and respectful attitude.

In Grangetown every child is regarded as an individual, where every day matters and each day is a fresh start with new challenges.

We do not tolerate any form of bullying or unacceptable behaviour and will act upon all reported or observed incidents.

Positive behaviour is modelled and embedded throughout the school and with this brings rewards.

#### **Links to other policies**

This policy is underpinned by the Grangetown Behaviour Policy and our Code of Conduct. The PHSE and Curriculum also links closely with both policies.

#### **Definition of Bullying**

We do not regard bullying as a 'one off incident'. It is a behaviour which deliberately makes another person feel uncomfortable, distressed or threatened and these actions are repeated over time. Bullying can also be an imbalance of power.

#### **Types of unacceptable behaviour (which if occurring regularly we regard as bullying)**

**Emotional** – being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting or using threatening behaviour, rumours.

**Physical** – pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence.

**Racist** – racial taunts, graffiti or gestures, religion, gender.

**Sexual** – unwanted physical contact or sexual comments.

**Homophobic** – because of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality.

**Verbal** – name calling (including the name calling of family members) sarcasm.

**Trans gender** – gender variance, discrimination.

**Cyber** – all areas of internet, such as e-mail, internet chat rooms and social network sites misuse.

Mobile threats by text messages, voice mail and calls. Misuse of associated technology i.e. camera and video facilities.

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER IT IS ILLEGAL TO HAVE A FACEBOOK ACCOUNT UNDER THE AGE OF 13 YEARS OLD. IF WE BELIEVE THAT YOUR CHILD HOLDS A FACEBOOK ACCOUNT, WE WILL REPORT THEM.

## **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. Pupils who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving.

All members of our School community have a responsibility 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.
- To make it clear to all that 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
- doesn't want to go on the school / public bus
- begs to be driven to school
- changes their usual routine
- is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
- 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
- comes home starving (money / lunch has been stolen)
- 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. Report bullying incidents to staff
2. Report bullying incidents to GABA (Grangetown Anti-Bullying Ambassadors)
3. In cases of serious bullying, the incidents will be recorded by staff- use the Reported Incident Sheet- this will be copied and filed as required
4. In serious cases parents should be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem
5. If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted
6. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly
7. An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour

### **Outcomes**

- 1) The bully (bullies) may be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences may take place.
- 2) In serious cases, exclusion will be considered
- 3) If possible, the pupils will be reconciled
- 4) After the incident / incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

### **Prevention**

We will use our School Behaviour Policy and practice in SEAL and PSHE to help children to prevent bullying. As and when appropriate, these may include:

- writing a set of school rules
- signing a behaviour contract
- writing stories or poems or drawing pictures about bullying
- reading stories about bullying or having them read to a class or assembly
- making up role-plays
- having discussions about bullying and why it matters (Circle Time/ Assemblies)

### **GABA**

Grangetown Anti-Bullying Ambassadors (GABA) are a group of 12 children ranging from Year 1 to 6, who aid the school in dealing with bullying incidents. They are gold star trained anti-bullying ambassadors who have an awareness of the types of bullying and effective ways to deal with them. The children have held assemblies for children and parents, created a leaflet that was sent home and support children on the playground with anything that may happen.

**Further Help and information for members of our School Community:**

Advisory Centre for Education (ACE) 020 7354 8321

KIDSCAPE Parents Helpline (Mon-Fri, 10-4) 0845 1 205 204

Kate Hillyard R and C LA (Anti Bullying Coordinator) 01642 444116

Kidscape website [www.kidscape.org.uk](http://www.kidscape.org.uk)