Saint Joseph's

Catholic Primary School

Ysgol Gynradd Catholig San

Anti-bullying Policy

Date endorsed by Governing Body 11th Oct 2010

Date to be reviewed Spring 2017

Date of readoption: 22nd January 2018

Date reviewed : 12th November 2020

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School states that its mission is to be:

One Family – Many Gifts

Un Teulu – Anrhegion Di-ri

Mission Statement

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School educates young people in the spirit of the Gospel and the traditions of the Catholic Church. Jesus Christ is at the centre of our community where each child is loved and valued as a unique part of God's creation. We work to help our children realise their full potential and prepare them to become responsible members of society.

Aims of the school

1. To lead children to Jesus Christ, the Way, the Truth and the Life.

2. To give sound moral training as a basis for all our learning activities.

3. To help us develop our God-given abilities and talents.

4. To provide a rich and varied curriculum appropriate to the children's needs.

5. To reach for the highest possible standards of behaviour and achievement.

St Joseph's Primary School Anti- Bullying Policy

Statement of Intent

St Joseph's staff are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils enabling them to learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable in our school. Sexually harmful behaviour is not acceptable. If bullying does occur, all of our pupils should feel able to inform staff of the matter, safe in the knowledge 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 inform a staff member.

Definition

What is bullying? Bullying is deliberately hurtful behaviour, repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim, and indeed, very often to family and friends. **It is not when two people have an occasional fight or disagreement.**

Bullying can be: -

- PHYSICAL – the use of any violence
- SEXUAL
- EMOTIONAL – being unfriendly, excluding a pupil, tormenting
- RACIST – racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- VERBAL – name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- CYBER – all aspects of the Internet such as e-mail / chat room misuse, mobile phone threat by text / call and misuse of associated technology, for example camera / video facilities.

STATUTORY DUTY OF SCHOOLS

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everyone has the right to be treated with respect. Pupils who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving and understand the hurt they cause.

St Joseph's has a legal duty to safeguard all pupils and ensure that there are procedures in place to prevent bullying amongst its pupils; in addition to bring these procedures to the attention of staff, parents and pupils.

It is the basic entitlement of all children to receive an education free from humiliation, oppression and abuse.

All members of staff at St Joseph's are responsible for dealing with bullying, however the following staff provide a direct focus for our anti-bullying policy strategy : -

- Headteacher – Mrs Claire Dineen (Safeguarding Officer)
- Deputy Headteacher – Mrs Philippa Brooks (Deputy Safeguarding Officer)
- Governor: Mrs Carolynn Elias (Safeguarding Governor)

PROCEDURES : -

- if bullying is suspected or reported, the incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff who has been approached.
- where the incident is regarded as of a serious nature the incident should be recorded by staff and reported to Mrs Brooks/Mrs Dineen who will keep a record.
- the bullying will be investigated with the intention of stopping it quickly and effectively.

- attempts will be made to help the bully appreciate the error of her/his ways.
- in certain cases parents (of victim / bully or indeed both) will be kept informed and may well be asked to attend a meeting at the school to discuss the issue.
- the matter may necessitate implementation of the “School Behaviour Policy”.
- a period of monitoring both victim and bully will occur .

Additionally, the pupil who has been bullied will be supported by the opportunity to discuss the issue, during which time reassurance will be given and the above procedures explained appropriately. Every effort will be made to restore the pupil’s self-esteem and confidence.

Moreover, the bully will have the opportunity to discuss the issue to ascertain why he/she embarked on such a course of action. He /she will be encouraged to appreciate the wrong doing, apologise to the victim and be supported in desisting from such behaviour in future. Implementation of the School Behaviour Policy along with any relevant punishment, will also be explained.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

- All governors, staff, pupils and parents have an understanding of bullying and its implications.
- All governors and staff know what the school policy is and follow it appropriately.
- All pupils and parents know what the school policy is and what they should do if bullying arises .

- As a school, St Joseph's takes the issue of bullying seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

A child may not always report bullying, however, the following might indicate that further investigation is necessary.

A victim of bullying might: -

- be frightened of walking to / from school
- not want to travel on the school bus
- ask to be escorted to school
- pretend to be ill to avoid attending school
- begin to truant
- become withdrawn, anxious or lack the usual confidence
- begin to stammer
- cry herself/himself to sleep or has nightmares
- begin to do poorly in school work
- come home with clothes torn or books damaged
- have possessions that are damaged or go missing
- ask for or steal money (to "pay" the bully)
- have dinner/bus money regularly " lost "
- have unexplained cuts or bruises
- arrive home hungry (money stolen / lunch eaten by the bully)
- become aggressive or disruptive
- bully younger brothers or sisters
- stop eating
- be nervous to go on the Internet at home
- appear " jumpy " if he /she receives a text message

Any combination of the above could indicate bullying or indeed, other issues. If you suspect your child is being bullied, please contact the school, the sooner an issue is aired, the better for all concerned.

You may also find some of the following useful: -

Parentline Plus	0808 8002222
Parents Against Bullying	01928 576152
KIDCSAPE Parents Helpline	0845 1 205 204
Childline	08000 1111
Bullying.co.uk	
www.kidscape.org.uk	

This policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school. Its effectiveness will be monitored and it will be reviewed annually or in the light of appropriate developments/guidance. (Respecting Others: Anti-bullying Overview N0: 050/2011.

October 2008

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