

Ysgol yr Eglwys yng Nghymru Llangatwg

Llangattock Church in Wales School



ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Reviewed and Adopted: 01/10/14

‘Challenging bullying effectively will improve the safety and happiness of learners, show that the school cares and make clear to bullies that such behaviour is unacceptable.

It has been shown that schools with a community focus can be successful in changing the culture of a community and have a positive effect on bullying both inside and outside the school gates.

Headteachers must, by law, have in place an anti-bullying strategy. These should be central to a school’s behaviour policy and be developed and implemented by everyone in the school, including the learners.

The Welsh Government (WG) has introduced a number of initiatives and strategies to help schools tackle bullying, including an anti-bullying toolkit. More recently, WG published the comprehensive anti-bullying guidance; ‘Respecting others’ covering all aspects of bullying.’ Learning Wales

Statement of Intent for Llangattock Church in Wales School

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 our school. 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.**

What Is Bullying?

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

Bullying can be:

- **Emotional** being 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** because of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality
- **Verbal** name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- **Cyber** All areas of internet, such as email & internet chat room misuse
Mobile threats by text messaging & calls
Misuse of associated technology , i.e. camera & video facilities

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.

At Llangattock School we have the 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.
- Bullying will not be tolerated.
- Every effort will be made to challenge and support the peer group of the victim/bully.

Signs and Symptoms

A child's behaviour may indicate 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
- 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 to run 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
- 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 or suspicions to staff
2. Incidents or suspicions will be recorded by staff in the Pupil Behaviour Record held centrally in the School office
3. In serious cases parents should be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem
4. If necessary and appropriate, the police will be consulted
5. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly
6. An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour
7. Support and re-assurance given to victim/s that the bullying will stop, that they have someone that they can tell if there are any further incidences or retribution

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 through a process of mediation. This process will help the bully to see the distress/torment that their actions have brought.
- 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

- Ensuring that a set of the School rules are displayed in each classroom
- Investigating bullying scenarios through PSE lessons/Circle Time. This may be done in the form of role plays.
- Reading stories about bullying or having them read to a class or assembly
- Having discussions about bullying and why it matters

HELPFUL RESOURCES AND ORGANISATIONS:

<http://learning.wales.gov.uk/improvementareas/behaviourandattendance/behaviour/bullying/?lang=en#/improvementareas/behaviourandattendance/behaviour/bullying/?lang=en>

Tackling Bullying in Schools: A survey of effective practice (This document surveys practice in schools and local authorities previously identified as being effective in addressing bullying)

Inclusion and pupil support guidance (This guidance covers the inclusion and support of learners of compulsory school age (although some elements will apply to all learners).

Thinking Positively: Emotional Health and Well-being in Schools and Early Years settings

Respecting others: Anti-bullying guidance 2011 (Respecting others' is a series of anti-bullying materials that provide guidance and practical solutions on preventing and responding to incidents of bullying in schools.)

Advisory Centre for Education (ACE)	020 7354 8321
Children's Legal Centre	0845 345 4345
KIDSCAPE Parents Helpline (Mon-Fri, 10-4)	0845 1 205 204
Parentline Plus	0808 800 2222
Youth Access	020 8772 9900
Bullying Online	www.bullying.co.uk
Kidscape	www.kidscape.org.uk

Date:

Signed: (Headteacher)

..... (Chair of Governors)

Renewal date: October 2015