



Blaenycwm Primary School

Anti-Bullying Policy

Children have a basic right to feel secure in school and we have a responsibility to create a secure and safe environment for the children in our care. Bullying of any kind is **unacceptable**. If bullying does occur at all, pupils should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively.

What is Bullying?

Bullying behaviour abuses an imbalance of power to repeatedly and intentionally cause emotional or physical harm to another person or group of people. Isolated instances of hurtful behaviour, teasing or arguments between individuals would not be classes as bullying..

Bullying generally takes one of four forms:

- ◇ Indirect being unfriendly, spreading rumours, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding bags or books)
- ◇ Physical pushing, kicking, hitting, punching, slapping or any form of violence.
- ◇ Verbal name calling, teasing, threats, sarcasm
- ◇ Cyber all areas of internet misuse, such as nasty and/or threatening emails, misuse of blogs, gaming websites, internet chat rooms and instant messaging. Mobile threats by text messaging and calls. Misuse of associated technology, i.e. camera and video technologies.

Although not an exhaustive list, common examples of bullying include;

- Racial bullying
- Homophobic bullying
- Bullying based on disability, ability, gender, appearance or circumstance.

Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying?

We know that children learn better when they are happy and not worried. We also recognise that bullying breeds on secrecy, consequently we aim to be a “**telling school**”. We stress that “telling” is responsible behaviour rather than “telling tales”. School is a community of people, not just a physical space, and consistent standards of behaviour are important everywhere. **NO** child deserves to be bullied, and bullying is a serious offence against the school community. In Blaenycwm Primary bullying is a ‘Fast Track’ Behaviour and may lead to the bully going on to the Positive Behaviour Programme.

We want to ensure that an anti-bullying ethos is established so that everyone will know that bullying will not be tolerated. We wish to create an atmosphere of tolerance and respect for others. It is essential for the commitment and involvement of all adults on site, as well as Governors, children and parents, in any anti-bullying work if the outcome is to be successful.

Implementation

School

The following steps may be taken when dealing with incidents

- If bullying is suspected or reported, the incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff who has been approached.
- A clear and precise account of the incident will be recorded and given to the Headteacher
- The Headteacher will interview all concerned and will record the incident
- The class teacher will be informed
- Parents will be kept informed
- Punitive measures will be used as appropriate and in consultation with all parties concerned

Pupils

Pupils who have been bullied will be supported by

- Offering an immediate opportunity to discuss the experience with a teacher of their choice
- Reassuring the pupil
- Offering continuous support
- Restoring self-esteem and confidence

Pupils who have bullied will be helped by:

- Discussing what has happened
- Discovering why the pupil acted as they did
- Establishing the wrong doing and the need to change
- Informing parents or guardians to help change the attitude and behaviour of the child

The following disciplinary steps can be taken

- Enrolment on the Positive Behaviour Programme
- Exclusion from certain areas of the school premises
- Minor fixed term exclusion
- Major fixed term exclusion
- Permanent exclusion

Within the curriculum, the school will raise the awareness of the nature of bullying through inclusion in PSE, assemblies SEAL programme and subject areas as appropriate, in an attempt to eradicate such behaviour.

Prevention

We will use some or all of the following to help raise awareness of and prevent bullying. As and when appropriate, these may include:

- Writing, and implementing a set of school rules
- Signing a behaviour contract as part of our Home School Agreement
- Using Art, Drama or Music to reinforce awareness
- Using stories about bullying
- Having regular discussions about bullying and why it is unacceptable

Signs and Symptoms

Many children and young people do not speak out when being bullied and may indicate by signs or behaviour that he or she is being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and should investigate if a child:

- Is frightened of walking to or from school
- Begs to be driven to school
- Changes their usual routine
- Is unwilling to go to school
- Begins to truant
- Becomes withdrawn or anxious
- Starts stammering
- Self harms or threatens suicide
- Runs away
- Cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- Uses excuses to miss school
- Begins to suffer academically
- Comes home with clothes torn or books damaged
- Has possessions which are damaged or 'go missing'
- Asks for money or starts to steal (to pay a bully)
- Has dinner or other monies continually 'lost'
- Has unexplained cuts or bruises or shows signs of being in a fight
- Becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- Is bullying other children or siblings
- Changes their eating habits
- Goes to bed earlier than usual
- Is unable to sleep
- Wets the bed
- Is nervous or jumpy when a text message or email is received

These signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and be investigated.

Signed _____

Headteacher

Chair of Governors

Policy Date – Autumn 2017

Date of Review – Autumn 2018