



## Wheatcroft CP School

### ANTI BULLYING POLICY

(Based on KIDSCAPE's policy)

#### Statement of Intent

At Wheatcroft, our school motto is ***Learn and Care*** which means that we will strive to ensure that this outcome is reflected in all we do for all members of our school community. 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 Wheatcroft 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 deliberate intention of hurting another person, 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. The three main types of bullying are:

physical (hitting, kicking, theft)

verbal (name calling, racist remarks)

indirect (spreading rumours, excluding someone from social groups)

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 Wheatcroft School, we will respond promptly and effectively to any 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.

## **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 and 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. In cases of serious bullying, the incidents will be recorded by staff and the Headteacher informed
3. In serious cases parents will be informed and asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem
4. If necessary and appropriate, 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

## Outcomes

- 1) The bully (bullies) may be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences may take place including detention or exclusion from using certain areas of the school premises.
- 2) If possible, the pupils will be reconciled.
- 3) In serious cases, temporary or even permanent exclusion will be considered.
- 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 a range of methods for helping children to prevent bullying. As and when appropriate, these may include:

- reading stories about bullying or having them read to a class or assembly
- writing a set of school rules
- signing a behaviour contract
- writing stories or poems or drawing pictures about bullying
- making up role-plays
- having discussions about bullying and why it matters through the teaching of PSHE curriculum and the strategies from Thrive

## HELP ORGANISATIONS:

Advisory Centre for Education (ACE) 0808 800 5793

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](http://www.bullying.co.uk)

Visit the Kidscape website [www.kidscape.org.uk](http://www.kidscape.org.uk) for further support, links and advice.

Policy approved by staff: 27.4.2022

Policy approved by Governors: 12.5.2022

Policy shared with parents/carers: 13.5.2022 (school website [www.wheatcroftprimary.com](http://www.wheatcroftprimary.com))

Policy review: Spring term 2025