



Anti-Bullying Policy
Reviewed February 26

Anti-bullying Policy

At Aspull Church Primary School we strongly believe that all bullying is unacceptable, regardless of how it is delivered or what excuses are given to justify it. Children must report any form of bullying seen or heard.

School Vision

“We shine like stars to achieve and make a difference in the world, knowing that with God, all things are possible.” Matthew 19:26

Victims of bullying will be treated in a supportive manner, and their case heard in an atmosphere of positive concern.

The purpose of this document is to set out a definition for bullying and to explain the procedure to be followed for dealing with bullying.

Aims and Objectives

- To give a clear definition of bullying.
- To raise awareness of bullying by ensuring that all governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- To bring about conditions in which bullying is less likely to happen in the future by ensuring that all governors, teaching and non-teaching staff know what the school policy is on bullying, and to follow it when bullying is reported.
- To ensure a whole school approach to bullying by ensuring that all pupils and parents know what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises.

What is bullying?

There are a number of definitions of bullying, but all definitions include the following characteristics:

- That it tends to be repetitive or prolonged.
- That it involves an imbalance of power.
- That it may be verbal, physical, psychological, racist, sexual or homophobic.

Definition

At Aspull Church Primary School, the children and parents have agreed that their definition of bullying is:

Bullying is when a person, or group of people, say or do horrible and nasty things that make you feel upset or uncomfortable. It happens more than once and it is done on purpose.

Bullying can be:

• Emotional	Being unfriendly, excluding, and tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures).
• Physical	Pushing, kicking, hitting, or any kind of violence.
• Racist	Racial taunts, graffiti, gestures.
• Sexual	Unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments.
• Homophobic, biphobic or transphobic	Being of, or focusing on the issue of sexuality or gender identity (including name-calling of a homophobic, bi-phobic or transphobic nature, belittling, graffiti, gestures, spreading rumours).
• Verbal	Name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing.
• Cyber	Using technology to taunt, name call, belittle, share photographs via texting, websites, chat rooms, social network sites, email etc

Any instances of any of the above should be reported to a member of SLT in the first instance.

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 Aspull Church School we understand that we have a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

Strategies for the prevention of bullying

- We encourage co-operation, trust and friendship, to encourage co-operative, non-aggressive play.
- SCARF lessons throughout school along with Sex and Relationships education in Y5/Y6 cover topics such as peer pressure, choices and bullying explicitly.
- Individual anti-bullying class lessons as required to address problems as they arise.
- External support is used when required.
- Weekly Reflection Time where classes reflect on Christian Values and how their actions impact on others.
- Staff monitor and report any incidents on the online CPOMS tool.
- Strategies such as circle time and role play are used as a means to explore different issues as they arise in school.
- Posters, books and display boards are used to promote a positive attitude towards behaviour, friendships and the range of family make-ups and relationships which reflects our current society.
- Through assemblies, SCARF and the Religious Education Scheme of work, we constantly talk about the importance of friendship and being a good citizen.
- We seek to promote a happy school.
- Weekly Courageous Advocate award often links to being a good citizen.
- We seek children's opinions and wellbeing needs through questionnaires and key issues are dealt with through circle time and at Pupil Parliament meetings.
- Friendship week explores issues around being a good friend.
- Anti-bullying week shares important messages for the children and how they need to share kindness to everyone.
- Premier Sports staff and regular visits from SLT on playground at lunchtime to reinforce expectations.

We encourage co-operative behaviour through:

- SSOC – School Sport Organising Crew.
- Designated lunchtime staff to support children in co-ordinating games sessions at lunchtimes.
- A series PTA events which encourage partnership with parents.
- An annual residential visit for Year 6 focusing on teamwork, co-operation and self-worth.
- Lunchtime Awards for excellent behaviour.
- Use of the playground effective in promoting positive play e.g. use of MUGA, daily mile track, basketball nets.

Procedures for dealing with bullying

When bullying has been observed or reported (i.e. instances have been reported as occurring several time on purpose) then the following steps should be taken:

- Incident reported to SLT
- Incident reported on CPOMS
- Individual (victim) interviewed
- Parents of Child (victim) notified and a review date set
- Children Interviewed (perpetrator)
- Parents of child (perpetrator) notified and review date set
- Agreed action with victim
- Agreed action with perpetrator
- Relevant staff notified to monitor on CPOMS
- Review date set

Monitoring and Evaluating the Policy

The Senior Management Team will review the incident logs on CPOMS regularly to look for recurring incidents and see if these can be related to particular school routines.

If, on review it is deemed that the incidents are still recurring for a particular child or a group of children and the bullying continues, then the following will happen:

- A referral to the Wigan TESS team will be made which may lead to an initiation of a Pastoral Support Programme if a child is in danger of exclusion or a fixed term exclusion has already taken place.
- A fixed term exclusion may be necessary.
- The child will be given a behaviour support plan (also referred to as a BSP). This is a personalised strategy, best suited to individuals whose behaviour has a severe impact on them or others.
- The Governing Body will be made aware of the disciplinary action taken.