

Anti-Bullying Policy



September 2025

This policy covers many of the articles from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Some key ones are listed below.

Article 19 – Children have the right to be protected from being hurt or mistreated by anyone.

Article 39 – Every child has the right to help and support if they have been treated badly in any form.



Grafton Primary School

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Date written: September 2025

Date for review: September 2026

Rationale

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.

Purpose

- To promote a safe and secure environment for all pupils, staff and volunteers
- To promote an ethos free from bullying
- To ensure that any reported incidents are dealt with sensitively, promptly and effectively

What is Bullying?

Bullying is the persistent, wilful and conscious desire to hurt, threaten or frighten another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim. Bullying is not when one incident has occurred, or when children fall out with their friends, it is repetitive and can take place over a prolonged period of time. 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 - Abusive name calling focussing on the issue of sexuality
- Verbal - Name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- Cyber - All areas of the internet, such as email and internet chat room misuse. Mobile threats by text messaging and calls. Misuse of associated technology, i.e. camera and video facilities

Bullying can be targeted towards a particular group or protected characteristic (e.g. Disabilities, Religious beliefs, Culture, Additional needs, Race, Gender, Sexual preference etc)

Prevention

The following strategies will be used to prevent bullying incidents:

- PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) lessons
- Promoting safer use of the internet and technology
- Implementation of the Behaviour policy (Positive Pathways)
- Small group or individual pupil discussions with an adult

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- Targeted talks in assembly
- Anti-bullying and Safer Internet weeks and workshops
- Whistleblowing Policy

We also use methods for helping children to prevent bullying as and when appropriate. These may include;

- writing a set of school rules
- signing a behaviour contract
- writing stories or poems or drawing pictures about bullying
- reading stories about bullying or having them read to a class or assembly
- making up role-plays
- having discussions about bullying and why it matters.

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 very seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Bullying will not be tolerated.

Guidelines

The ethos at Grafton is designed to prevent bullying, however, should an incident of bullying occur, these guidelines will apply:

1. All bullying incidents will be recorded.
2. Victims of bullying will be treated with respect and confidentiality.
3. Appropriate sanctions to deal with bullies, in line with the School Behaviour Policy, will be implemented. This may also include the bully apologising to the victim; where possible pupils will be reconciled. In serious cases, exclusion will be considered. After the incident has been investigated and dealt with, cases will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.
4. Pupils perpetrating bullying will be given appropriate support to change their behaviour.
5. Parents will be informed.
6. Training opportunities and resources will be available to all staff to develop anti bullying strategies.
7. Resources are available to staff to enable them to have a greater understanding of the issues around bullying.

At Grafton we do not tolerate racism, intolerance of disabilities, religious intolerance, incidents which would be considered homophobic and those which demonstrate unacceptable attitudes towards gender. The school is also working to ensure that children develop resilience towards and understanding of the dangers of being exposed to extremist views.



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Parents who are concerned that their child might be being bullied, or who suspect that their child may be the perpetrator of bullying, should contact their child's class teacher immediately. Parents have a responsibility to support the school's anti-bullying policy and to actively encourage their child to be a positive member of the school community.

All incidents are taken extremely seriously and are recorded on our internal system. Records are monitored half termly by the Inclusion Team and the Leadership Team and Governors are provided with a report termly.

Appropriate action is always taken and consequences/ restorative measures are put into place.

As a follow up for the child who has experienced bullying, we monitor and provide support by checking in on them to ensure their well being and provide opportunities for them to with an identified member of staff or mentor. If required, we do have access to school counsellor and a referral may be put forward for this with the parents consent.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Information records concerning bullying incidents will be held centrally.
- The Governors, Head teacher and SLT will monitor Bullying Incidents.
- This policy will be evaluated and reviewed by the governors annually.