Sunningwell C of E Primary School

WHOLE SCHOOL POLICY FOR
Anti-Bullying

Objectives of this Policy

Sunningwell Church of England Primary School Anti-Bullying Policy outlines what our school will do to prevent and tackle bullying. The policy has been drawn up through the involvement of the school community. Whilst we acknowledge that bullying may take place and should be addressed, we feel that sharing and encouraging children to use the Christian values of friendship, forgiveness and trust, that have been chosen by our community, should be the foundation of behaviour and of reconciliation.

Our school community:

- Discusses, monitors and reviews our anti-bullying policy on a regular basis
- Supports staff to promote positive relationships and identify and tackle bullying appropriately
- Ensures that pupils are aware that all bullying concerns will be dealt with sensitively and effectively; that pupils feel safe to learn; and that pupils abide by the anti-bullying policy
- Reports back to parents/carers regarding their concerns on bullying and deals promptly with complaints. Parents/carers in turn work with the school to uphold the anti-bullying policy
- Seeks to learn from good anti-bullying practice elsewhere and utilises support from the Local Authority and other relevant organisations when appropriate[1]

Definition of bullying

Bullying is: "**Behaviour by an individual or a group, usually repeated over time that intentionally hurts another individual either physically or emotionally**". It may be aimed at certain groups, for example because of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation.

Bullying includes: name calling, taunting, mocking, making offensive comments, physical assault, taking belongings, inappropriate text messaging, emailing or social media posts, using AI to cause upset or offence, sending or posting of offensive or degrading images by phone or via the internet, producing offensive graffiti, gossiping, excluding people from groups and spreading hurtful and untruthful rumours.

Forms of bullying covered by this Policy

Bullying can happen to anyone. This policy covers all types of bullying including:

- Bullying related to race, religion or culture
- Bullying related to special educational needs
- Bullying related to appearance or health conditions
- Bullying related to sexual orientation
- Bullying of young carers or looked after children or otherwise related to home circumstances
- Sexist or sexual bullying

Identifying and responding to bullying

We will:

- Work with staff and outside agencies to identify all forms of prejudice-driven bullying
- Actively provide systematic opportunities to develop pupils' social and emotional skills, including their resilience

[1] https://www.gov.uk/bullying-at-school/bullying-a-definition

- Consider all opportunities for addressing bullying including through the curriculum, through displays, through peer support and through the School Parliament
- Train all staff including lunchtime and break-time staff to identify bullying and follow school policy and procedures on bullying
- Actively create “safe spaces” for vulnerable children and young people

Involvement of pupils

We will:

- Canvass children and young people’s views on the extent and nature of bullying
- Ensure pupils know how to express worries and anxieties about bullying
- Ensure all pupils are aware of the range of sanctions which may be applied against those engaging in bullying
- Publicise the details of helplines and websites
- Offer support to pupils who have been bullied
- Work with pupils who have been bullying in order to address the problems they have

Liaison with parents and carers

We will:

- Ensure that parents/carers know who to contact if they are worried about bullying
- Ensure parents/carers know where to access independent advice about bullying
- Work with parents and the local community to address issues beyond the school gates that give rise to bullying

Links with other school policies

This Policy links with a number of other school policies including:

- Behaviour Policy
- Online safety Policy
- Safeguarding Policy

Monitoring and Review

We will review this Policy at least once every two years or if incidents occur that suggest the need for review. This Policy only works if it ensures that the whole school community understands that bullying is not tolerated and understands the steps that will be taken to both prevent and respond to bullying.

Head Teacher: Anita Leech

Governor: Rebecca Tolley

Review Date: April 2028