



The Viking Preparatory and Pre-School
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Anti-Bullying Policy

Introduction

Our school aims to provide an environment that is safe and secure for all members of the school community.

We define bullying as the repeated action taken by one or more children with the deliberate intention of hurting another child, either physically, sexually, verbally or emotionally.

Aims and Objectives

We aim to make all those connected with The Viking School aware of our opposition to bullying, and we make clear each person's responsibilities with regard to minimising all forms of bullying in our school.

We ensure that all children, parents / carers and adults within school have a common understanding of what bullying is.

Bullying is wrong and damages individual children. We therefore do all we can to prevent it by developing a school ethos in which bullying is regarded as unacceptable.

We aim, as a school, to produce a safe and secure environment where all can learn without anxiety.

This policy aims to produce a consistent school response to any bullying incident that may occur.

The Role of the Head Teacher

It is the responsibility of the Head Teacher to implement the school anti-bullying strategy and to ensure that all staff (both teaching and non-teaching) are aware of the school policy and to know how to deal with incidents of bullying.

The Head Teacher ensures that all children know that bullying is wrong, and that it is unacceptable behaviour in this school. Through teaching and learning, children are taught how to deal with and discuss their emotions in a positive manner and how to resolve problems that arise. This is reflected in PSHE across the school.

The Head Teacher monitors the incidents of inappropriate behaviour and bullying that may occur, and reviews the effectiveness of the school policy regularly.

The Role of School Staff

All staff in our school takes all forms of inappropriate behaviour and bullying seriously, and are pro-active in dealing with incidents. Any serious incidents of inappropriate behaviour or bullying are reported to the Head Teacher.

All adults are expected to be pro-active in monitoring behaviour in and around school, recognising and rewarding positive behaviour as well as dealing with inappropriate behaviour.

Teachers and adults support all children in their class to establish a climate of trust and respect for all. By praising, rewarding and celebrating the success of all children, we aim to prevent incidents of bullying. The Viking School holds weekly assemblies where these successes are celebrated and parents are informed in fortnightly newsletters.

The Role of Parents

Parents are informed of our school's expectation for pupil behaviour through the school prospectus.

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.

Where a parent has a concern about their child, we encourage them to talk to their child about what has happened, and in the first instance speak with the class teacher to share concerns. This will allow the teacher to discuss the issue with the children involved. Then if necessary, the teacher will then take further action.

Whole School Strategies to Minimize Bullying

We have set up friendship stops where children can go if they are not enjoying playtime and are training older children to support good behaviour by being "playground buddies".

There are regular teacher - class discussions, e.g. during golden time, dealing with friendship / playtime issues.

Peer support is strongly emphasised: children are taught how to effectively support a bullied child and how to resist "joining-in" with bullying.

The issues surrounding e-safety, cyber-bullying and other forms of inappropriate use of communication technology is explored and discussed with children in school. NSPCC regularly visit school to hold assemblies with the children.

Every year we support National Anti-Bullying week, raising awareness.

Anti-Bullying Code:

If you see someone being bullied:

- DON'T rush over and take the bully on;
- DO let a teacher or other member of staff know;
- DO try to be a friend to the person being bullied;
- DON'T be made to join in;
- DO try to help the bully stop bullying;

If you are a victim of bullying:

- TELL a teacher or another adult in school;
- Tell your family;
- TAKE a friend with you if you are scared to tell someone by yourself;
- KEEP telling people until someone listens;
- DON'T blame yourself for what has happened.

How the School Responds to Specific Allegations of Bullying

Children know who to talk to in the first instance. This will usually be their class teacher, but it could also be:

- Head Boy or Girl or a friend;
- Another teacher known to them;
- Teaching assistant or adult in the school;
- A Midday supervisor.

The children must be given every opportunity to report the bullying in the first instance, but it will be the class teacher / Head Teacher who will follow up allegations. Therefore, any other adult in a position of responsibility should feed back to the class teacher / Head Teacher as soon as possible.

The class teacher / Head Teacher take steps to discuss the problems with the children involved to establish the situation and talk through any issues. An early resolution is sought using these tactics.

Both bullied and bullying parties are informed that the situation is being monitored by the Head Teacher. Parents / carers of the children involved will be informed at this stage.

If there is no improvement, or further bullying occurs, the parents of the bullying child must be contacted in order to come into school to discuss the problem and to make clear that a zero tolerance policy is being adhered to. If further bullying takes place, there is a real risk that the bully will be excluded for a fixed term.

As a result of the discussion, clear expectations are laid down as t:

- Expected behaviour and attitudes;
- Where the bullying child should be at specific times of the day;
- Who they should keep away from;
- What are the arrangements for beginning / ending lessons, lunchtimes, starting and ending day.

Individual circumstances will determine the precise arrangements to be made.

Support is given to the children involved in incidents of bullying to raise their self-esteem and develop their social skills. If appropriate adult support may be offered from appropriate outside agencies.

Equal Opportunities

This policy shall be applied equally to all.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed according to statutory requirements or every two years.

This policy was discussed and agreed by members of The Viking School.

Signed:

Miss. L. Middlebrook

Dated:

January 2022