



Carrwood Primary School

Anti-Bullying Strategy

Rationale

At Carrwood Primary School we recognise that bullying can occur. When it does it can be harmful both physically and emotionally for the victim. It can also be a sign that the child carrying out the bullying has underlying issues that need to be addressed. The purpose of this strategy is to enable adults in the school to recognise bullying when it takes place and to deal with it effectively.

What is bullying?

Bullying is deliberately hurtful behaviour by an individual or group. It is usually repeated, often over a period of time.

We believe that there are a number of types of bullying, which may include the following behaviours:

Emotional: excluding from a group, tormenting, ridiculing, humiliating, being unfriendly

Physical: hitting, punching, pinching kicking or taking someone's belongings, any use of violence

Verbal: name-calling, insulting, indirect bullying, through spreading stories about someone, threats, making fun of someone

Prejudice-Base and Discriminatory: Taunts, gestures, graffiti or physical abuse based on a particular characteristic (e.g. gender, race, sexuality) making fun of someone's culture or religion

Sexual: Explicit sexual remarks, display of sexual material, sexual gestures, unwanted physical attention, comments about sexual reputation or performance, or inappropriate touching

Cyber: Bullying that takes place online, such as through social networking sites, messaging apps, gaming sites, devices or via images, audio, video, or written content generated by artificial intelligence (AI)

Bullying is not:

It is important to understand that bullying is not falling out with friends, name calling, arguments or when the occasional 'joke' is played on someone. Children do sometimes fall out or say things because they are upset. When occasional problems of this kind arise, it is not classed as bullying. It is an important part of a child's development to learn how to deal with friendship breakdowns, the odd name calling or childish prank. We all have to learn how to deal with these situations and develop social skills to repair relationships.

It is bullying if it is done repeatedly and on purpose.

Whenever the opportunity arises it must be made profoundly clear that we will **not** tolerate bullying at Carrwood Primary School. We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils so that they can grow and learn in a relaxed and safe environment.

Why do we tackle bullying?

We tackle bullying as an issue because we believe that:

- Children should be happy and feel safe at school
- Bullying makes people unhappy and leads to low self-esteem
- Pupils who are being bullied are unlikely to concentrate fully on their schoolwork
- Some pupils avoid being bullied by not attending school

- Pupils who observe unchallenged bullying behaviour may copy this anti-social behaviour
- We wish to build the self-esteem of all pupils, especially bullies and victims

Procedures for reporting and responding to bullying incidents

Allegations and incidents of bullying at Carrwood Primary School will be taken seriously by all staff and dealt with impartially and promptly. All of those involved will have the opportunity to be heard. Staff will support all children involved whilst the allegations and incidents are investigated and resolved.

The following procedures are to be followed:

- Incidents of bullying need to be reported to an adult in school, usually the class teacher as the first contact
- The class teacher /behaviour lead or member of SLT will speak to all children involved about the incident separately or if appropriate as a group. This will be reported to the Headteacher, and recorded on CPOMS
- The problem will be identified and possible solutions suggested
- Appropriate action will be taken to end the bullying behaviour or threats of bullying, in-line with school's behaviour policy
- The bully (bullies) may be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences may take place and appropriate sanctions applied e.g. loss of privileges, spending playtime and lunchtimes with an adult, parents being called into school
- If possible, the pupils will be reconciled
- Full support will be given to the victim
- An attempt will be made and support given to help the bully (bullies) understand and change his/her behaviour
- In repeated or serious cases, the school may use the following sanctions: SLT reflection, fixed term suspension or permanent exclusion
- Staff will attempt to adopt a problem solving approach through circle times, PSHE activities and/or drama activities
- All incidents and actions will be reported on CPOMS

Role of Parents / Carers

Parents have an important part to play in our anti bullying policy. We ask parents to:

- Always take an active role in their child's education, Enquire how their day has gone, who they have spent time with etc
- Contact their child's class teacher immediately if they feel their child may be a victim of bullying behaviour. Their complaint will be taken seriously and appropriate action will follow
- Never approach a child in the playground or on their way home who they feel has bullied their child
- Advise their child not to fight back or to repeat the bullies' behaviour as this will only make the situation worse
- Reassure their child that it is not their fault if they are being bullied.

Advice from Parents for Parents:-

- Listen to your child's concerns but don't put words into their mouths.
- Show them that you realise it's important to them but try not to blow it out of proportion.
- Let them know that it's okay not to be friends with everyone and that friendships change over time. If possible use examples from your own experiences, both as a child and an adult.
- Help them with ways to develop different friendships for example by joining an after school club or doing an extracurricular activity.
- Encourage them to treat others as they would like to be treated themselves.
- If you do feel your child is being affected by bullying then inform the school, via their class teacher, but do not approach a child or their parent directly.

Strategies for the prevention and reduction of bullying

Whole school initiatives and proactive teaching strategies will be used throughout the school to develop a positive learning environment with the aim of reducing the opportunities for bullying to occur. These include:

- Regular PSHE teaching following the agreed scheme of work
- Work by the Pastoral Care Manager and Learning Mentor
- Taking part in national anti-bullying week
- Awareness through anti-bullying assemblies
- Specific and regular input on acceptable and safe use of ICT
- Circle time
- Drama/role play activities
- Playground buddies
- The following of the whole school behaviour policy which includes using praise and rewards to reinforce good behaviour
- Encouraging the whole school community to model appropriate behaviour towards one another.

Monitoring of Strategy

This strategy will be monitored by the Senior Leadership Team and will be reviewed annually.

Updated: September 2026

To be Reviewed: September 2027