

Bleakhouse Primary School Children's Anti-Bullying Policy

Everyone at Bleakhouse thinks bullying is something serious. We think everyone should be safe, respected and able to enjoy school without being frightened or scared of being bullied. This policy tells children what they should do to prevent and report bullying.

What is Bullying?

At Bleakhouse Primary School we believe that **bullying** is when children threaten, hurt or frighten other children **Several Times On Purpose**. Those children who are bullied often find it difficult to stick up for themselves against repeated attacks or often prefer not to fight back.

It is **not** bullying when children fall out with each other or hurt someone accidentally.



Types of Bullying.

Bullying can be done in different ways but there are five main types:

- **Physical**- Hitting, kicking, taking/damaging belongings.
- **Verbal**-Name-calling, insults, racist remarks, remarks about disabilities/differences.
- **Indirect**- Spreading rumours/stories about someone, leaving children out from a group, using body language.

- **Cyber-** threatening e-mails, abusive text messages, comments on social networking sites like ones in verbal bullying. Teachers can search electronic devices including mobile phones and delete inappropriate items.
- **Homophobic/Racist/Disability-** these can take any of the above forms.

Objectives

- To make sure that everyone is aware of the school's policy on bullying.
- To make sure there is little or no bullying in the school.
- To have an environment which promotes the acceptance, tolerance and respect of individual differences.
- To provide ways for children to deal with bullying, both for the victim and the bully.
- Adults know about bullying and investigate it.

To help stop bullying

So there is less bullying school will:

- Develop understanding, tolerance and respect of all,
- Have an Anti-bullying Week every year,
- Have anti-bullying lessons and assemblies,
- Anti-bullying display,
- Train playground Play Leaders annually.

What happens if someone is bullied.

- Pupils learn about bullying through: Lessons, Assemblies, Bully Box and School Council.
- The school will talk to children about bullying and how to solve the problem.
- Staff must take bullying seriously and investigate it when they are told about it.

- Children can tell about bullying by talking to staff on duty, talking to their class teacher, asking a friend to tell an adult, putting a note in the bully box, tell a School Council Rep, Play Leaders or Prefect or talking to any adult in school.
- If children see bullying they need to tell staff or a School Council Rep, Play Leaders or Prefect
- If parents tell school about bullying this has to be investigated.



When bullying has happened

1. An investigation takes place by the class teacher or teacher on duty, at lunchtime names are written on the Lunchtime List . There may be sanctions like losing playtime. The victim may be asked to help suggest a sensible sanction. Children who have watched the bullying will also be spoken to about telling if they see bullying.
2. If bullying happens again Mrs. Martin, Mrs. McGahey or Mrs. Soudani will speak to the victim and the child reported to have bullied. Parents might be told at this stage.
3. If there are three instances of bullying by the same child Mr. Bates May speak to the child and their parents. Further times may mean the bullying child is suspended or excluded.

Support for the Children involved

1. Teachers/Support Staff talk to the victim to help them cope. Parents might be spoken to about other ways to help their child.
2. Teachers/Support Staff counsel the bullying pupil to look for strategies to help the child change their behaviour. Parents might be spoken to about other ways to help their child.
3. Work with whole class or group.
4. Encourage the use of the bully box.
5. Named adult to report incidents to.

This policy is checked and updated every year by the School Council.

