



Eccleston C.E. Primary School
***"Let Your Light Shine"* - Matthew 5:16**

Anti-Bullying Policy

Pupil Welfare and Safeguarding Committee

Reviewed: Summer 2021

Approved by Curriculum Committee: Summer 2021

Approved by Full Governing Board: Summer 2021

Signed by Chair of Governors:

Review Date: Summer 2023

ECCLESTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our Vision Statement

At Eccleston C of E Primary School we are united in our vision to prepare our children for life in the modern world.

We will do this by instilling a lifelong love of learning and embedding Christian values that reflect the example Jesus has set.

We strive for excellence in all we do, enabling all members of our school to flourish.

Anti-bullying Policy

The aim of the anti-bullying policy is to ensure that pupils at Eccleston Church of England Primary School learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied. Bullying is anti-social behaviour and affects everyone; it is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

Named Person

The named person to deal with incidents of bullying is Mrs K Prescott, Headteacher.

Definition

Bullying is defined as deliberately hurtful behaviour, repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. The three main types of bullying are:

- physical (hitting, kicking, theft)
- verbal (name calling, racist remarks, homophobic remarks)
- indirect (spreading rumours - including by electronic means, repeatedly excluding someone from social groups).

Pupils who are being bullied may show changes in behaviour, such as becoming shy and nervous, feigning illness, taking unusual absences or clinging to adults. There may be evidence of changes in work patterns, lacking concentration or truanting from school. Pupils must be encouraged to report bullying in our school and understand that they will be listened to.

Schools' teaching and ancillary staff will be alert to the signs of bullying and act promptly and firmly against it in accordance with school policy.

Statutory duty of schools

Headteachers have a legal duty under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 to draw up procedures to prevent bullying among pupils and to bring these procedures to the attention of staff, parents and pupils.

Vulnerable Groups

Staff should all be aware of groups of children, staff or parents who may be more vulnerable to bullying. Such groups may include children on free school meals, children or adults with a disability, children or adults with special educational needs, gay or lesbian adults, children identifying as LGBT+ or children with parents who are or gay or lesbians and minority ethnic groups. Extra vigilance should be taken to protect these groups and we work to prevent bullying of these groups in particular.

We also note that children or families identifying as LGBT+ may not always have the support of their families.

Prevention

Within the curriculum the school will raise the awareness of the nature of bullying through inclusion in PSHE, assemblies and subject areas, as appropriate, in an attempt to eradicate such behaviour.

A whole school anti bullying week will take place once a year, where children will spend curriculum time exploring why people bully and what to do if they or another person becomes a victim of bullying.

As a Church of England school, our ethos is based on Christian values and these will be strongly linked to creating an atmosphere of care, trust and mutual support. Our school's mission statement and our golden rules reflect this and Christian values are regularly explored through assembly themes and other curriculum areas.

The children will also be regularly reminded about the dangers presented by online activities such as social networking and texting and how these can be channels for bullying.

Implementation

The following steps may be taken when dealing with incidents:

The School

- If bullying is suspected or reported, the incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff who has been approached
- A clear account of the incident will be recorded and given to the Headteacher
- The Headteacher will interview all concerned and will record the incident
- Records of such incidents will be kept in a secure place in the Headteacher's office
- Class teachers will be kept informed
- Parents will be kept informed
- Punitive measures will be used as appropriate and in consultation will all parties concerned

Pupils

Pupils who have been bullied will be supported by:

- offering an immediate opportunity to discuss the experience with their class teacher or member of staff of their choice;
- reassuring the pupil;
- offering continuous support;
- restoring self-esteem and confidence.

Pupils who have bullied will be helped by:

- discussing what happened;
- discovering why the pupil became involved;
- establishing the wrong doing and need to change;
- informing parents or guardians to help change the attitude of the pupil.

Pupil Input

The pupils of Eccleston CE Primary School feel confident that their concerns about bullying will be listened to and taken seriously.

"The teachers at Eccleston will always help you if you are hurt or if you don't know what to do. We can try to sort things out by talking to each other. We can ask one of the teachers and they will do all they can to help. Sometimes we have to let people know how we feel, but not by hurting them or being mean. The teachers at school can help with this. We also have a worry boxes in each classroom where we can put our worries."

-Year 6 pupils, September 2020

The following disciplinary steps can be taken with pupils who bully;

- official warnings to cease offending;
- loss of playtimes/lunchtimes/other privileges;
- exclusion from certain areas of school premises;
- minor fixed-term exclusion;
- major fixed-term exclusion;
- permanent exclusion.

Monitoring, evaluation and review

The school will review this policy every three years and assess its implementation and effectiveness or sooner if necessary. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

The school's response to bullying flowchart

