

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY FOR RIVER VIEW PRIMARY SCHOOL

Date of issue: *September 2023*

Review Date: *September 2024*





AIMS

The aim of this anti-bullying policy is to ensure that pupils 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. Only when all issues of bullying are addressed will pupils be able to fully benefit from the opportunities available at schools.

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)
- Indirect (spreading rumours, excluding someone from social groups)

Pupils who are 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 schools.

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

IMPLEMENTATION

The following steps may be taken when dealing with incidents:

- 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 given to Mr Gauld our Headteacher.
- The incident will be recorded on SIMS behaviour.
- The Headteacher/Deputy Headteacher will interview all concerned if the situation persists
- Parents will be kept informed.
- Punitive measures will be used as appropriate and in consultation with all parties concerned.

Pupils who have been bullied will be supported by:

- Offering an immediate opportunity to discuss the experience with a class teacher or member of staff and school council if required
- Reassuring the pupil the matter will be investigated
- Offering continuous support
- Restoring self-esteem and confidence

Pupils who have bullied will be helped by:

- Discussing what happened and make pupil aware of the other pupil's feelings
- Discovering why the pupil became involved
- Informing parents or guardians to help change the attitude of the pupil.
- Raise awareness of inappropriate behaviour

The following disciplinary steps can be taken:

- Official warning to cease offending
- Bully removed from the playground to the calming area where he/she will be given the opportunity to discuss his/her behaviour with the designated member of staff.

- Detention
- Inform parents
- Minor fixed term exclusion
- Major fixed term exclusion
- Permanent exclusion

Within in 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.

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW

The school will review this policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout school.