

# Asfordby Captains Close Primary School

## ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Responsibility for Review	Safeguarding Committee
Period of Review	3 years
Date of Last Review	September 2016
Date of Next Review	September 2019



# Asfordby Captain's Close Primary School

Saxelby Road, Asfordby, Melton Mowbray, Leics LE14 3TU

Tel: 01664 812630

Email: [ict.admin@captains-close.leics.sch.uk](mailto:ict.admin@captains-close.leics.sch.uk)

Website: [www.captains-close.leics.sch.uk](http://www.captains-close.leics.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs J Hancock

# POLICY ON BULLYING (OR ANTI-BULLYING POLICY)

## Introduction

Recent research shows that about one in every six school children will be involved in some aspect of bullying at some time in his/her school career. In response to nationwide concern about this issue, we have drawn up the following policy for use if bullying should occur at Captains Close Primary School. This policy should be read in conjunction with the Schools Aims and Objectives and the Behaviour Policy. The school also works in conjunction with Leicestershire Healthy schools, DSAT core policies and the Anti-Bullying alliance and PSHE association.

The Staff and Governors consider bullying to be a very serious issue and action will be taken in every reported incident. We will not tolerate bullying at Captains Close Primary School. We believe that all children have the right to come to school without the fear of being bullied.

## What is Bullying

Bullying arises out of a wish to repeatedly hurt, threaten and frighten someone else. It can be PHYSICAL, involving pushing, pinching, spitting, hitting or kicking. It can be VERBAL, involving name calling, teasing, taunting or threatening. It can be SILENT, or almost, involving the isolation of the victim by ignoring him or her, or by excluding him or her from group activities. It can involve RUDE GESTURES. Other forms of bullying include DELIBERATE DAMAGE to the victim's property, or TAKING that property without permission - sweets, pencils, even money, for example.

## What is to be done?

### Pupils who are being bullied

- a. Tell yourself that you do not deserve to be bullied
- b. If you are different in some way be proud of it. It is good to be an individual
- c. Try not to show that you are upset - even though it is difficult
- d. Stay with groups of people. There is safety in numbers
- e. Try being assertive, shout "NO!" loudly! Walk confidently even if you don't feel that way inside

### **Practise this:**

- f. Fighting back usually makes things worse. If you feel you want to fight back, talk to an adult first.
- g. It is best to tell an adult you trust. Teachers will take you seriously and are experienced in dealing with bullies in a way which will end the bullying and will not make things worse for you. **(If teachers do not know you are being bullied they cannot help you.)**
- h. Try writing down who does what to you and when, and if possible, why you think you are being bullied.

**Remember - Your silence is the bully's greatest weapon**

### Pupils who know that bullying is going on

- a. Take action when someone is being bullied or is in distress. Tell an adult immediately. Watching and doing nothing looks as if you are on the side of the bully. It makes the victim more unhappy and alone. Teachers have a way of dealing with bullying without getting you into trouble.

## **Parents**

- a. Watch for signs of distress in your children. For instance, they could be unwilling to attend school, feel unwell regularly, or have missing equipment.
- b. Take an active interest in your child's social life. Discuss friendships, how lunchtime is spent and the journeys to and from school.
- c. Inform the class teacher immediately if you suspect your child to be a victim of bullying behaviour. Your complaint will be investigated and appropriate action taken. If necessary a plan of action will be worked out together involving strategies to prevent further incidents. Should the problem persist you will be kept informed of developments.
- d. Please remember encouraging your child to hit back nearly always makes matters worse.
- e. Links to further information on bullying can be found in the 'ideas for parents' section of the school website.

## **Staff**

### **PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO INCIDENTS OF BULLYING**

- a. An appropriate member of staff (usually the class teacher) will investigate any reported incidence of bullying. The class teacher will talk individually to all the children involved in the incident as soon as possible.
- b. When an incident of bullying has occurred in school, the bully will be confronted with the facts.
- c. Children who have been the victims of bullying will be given protection and support. They will be advised how to deal with a situation in which they are being bullied.
- d. The bully will be asked to state verbally and/or in writing why she/he wanted to bully the victim.
- e. The bully will be encouraged to see the victim's point of view. Restorative approaches may be explored.
- f. In the first instance the child bullying will be isolated from the other children. She/he will be advised how to control her/his aggression. Strategies for self control will be explored , either by teaching team or ELSA.
- g. A record will be kept of the incident and, if appropriate, parents will be informed.
- h. In further instances (or first if serious enough), parents will be involved in strategies to prevent further incidents.
- i. ALL staff will keep each other informed of any incidents through informal discussion and the 'pupil awareness' item on the staff meeting agenda.
- j. In the case of persistent bullying the Governors will be informed and temporary exclusion (suspension) of the pupil concerned will be considered. Exclusion of the pupil will only apply in extreme cases.
- k. A book of incidents occurring at lunchtimes will be kept and checked by the Phase leads and/or headteacher.

As part of the school curriculum all children are encouraged to discuss their relationships with their peers and teachers. All children should be able to talk about these matters in confidence with any member of staff. The school stresses the importance of children treating others as they would like to be treated themselves. We consider moral and social issues to be an important part of our work.

## **Conclusion**

Bullying not only affects the bullies and the victims, it also affects those other children who watch and those pupils who may be drawn in by group pressure. Everyone involved in school will take on the responsibility and work together to make every child's school life happy and secure so that each one will be able to benefit from the opportunities available here.