

# **MONKS ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL**

## **ANTI – BULLYING POLICY**

### **Those involved:**

- Pupils
- Teachers
- Senior lunchtime supervisor – also a governor

### **What is meant by bullying?**

Bullying occurs when individuals are deliberately hurtful either verbally, mentally or physically towards other individuals and whose actions are repeated over a period of time.

Croydon's definition "... a range of unacceptable behaviours that are sometimes unintentionally, but more often deliberately intended to hurt, intimidate, frighten, harm, humiliate, undermine, or exclude.

Bullying is often characterised by being repeated over time and difficult for the sufferer to defend themselves against."

### **Forms of bullying**

- Physical e.g. hitting, kicking, pushing, snatching belongings.
- Verbal e.g. name calling, insulting, humiliating, threatening.
- Indirect verbal abuse e.g. spreading nasty stories or rumours about someone, blocking them from interaction with a social group.

### **WHATEVER FORM THE BULLYING TAKES ITS MAJOR CHARACTERISTIC IS THAT IT IS PERSISTENT.**

As a school Monks Orchard takes bullying seriously. Bullying will not be tolerated.

### **Signs and symptoms**

A child **may** indicate by signs or behaviour that he or she is being bullied.

- Frightened of walking to and from school
- Is unwilling to go to school
- Becomes withdrawn or anxious
- Cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- Often feels ill in the mornings
- Has possessions which are damaged or go missing
- Is frightened to say what's wrong

The above signs and behaviours could indicate other problems but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated.

### **PROCEDURES**

1. Children should be aware that the best option is to tell an adult in the school.
2. When bullying is observed or suspected it should be reported to the Head Teacher or senior member of staff.
3. The incidents will be recorded and copies kept in the Behaviour file in the Headteacher's office.
4. The bullying behaviour will be investigated and attempts made to stop the bullying as soon as possible.
5. In serious cases parents will be informed and may be asked to attend a meeting.

### **Possible outcomes**

- The victim may be asked to determine the course of action i.e. explaining to the bully how they feel.
- The bully may be asked to genuinely apologise.
- Attempts will be made to reconcile the pupils.
- Parents may be contacted depending on the seriousness of the bullying.
- After the incident has been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure that repeated bullying does not take place.
- Teachers, lunchtime supervisors will be informed so that they also can monitor the situation

### **PREVENTION**

Awareness of what constitutes bullying and what a pupil should do if they are being bullied or suspect another pupil is being bullied may be achieved through the following:

- Writing a set of class / school rules
- Signing a class behaviour contract
- Writing stories or poems or drawing pictures about bullying
- Reading stories about bullying
- School assemblies
- Role play
- Circle time discussions
- PSHE – Citizenship education

### **RACIST INCIDENTS**

The school follows the Authority's policy for Anti-Racism and the Head Teacher is the designated person.

All incidents are recorded and the school adheres to the Authority procedures.