

Whitchurch Church of England Primary School	Effective Date:	January 2025
Policy and Procedure		
 <p style="text-align: center;">Anti-Bullying Policy</p>	Revision Date:	January 2027
Head Teacher		Mrs C Pritchard
DSL		Mrs C Pritchard
Chair of Governors		Mrs S Smith

Jesus said, 'Love your neighbour as yourself' (Matthew 22:39)

Whitchurch Vision Prayer

Lord God, together we make a difference through love, courage and respect. With kind actions, words and thoughts we accept everyone for whom they are and care for those in need. Help us learn well with curiosity and confidence. Our world is your creation and we will cherish it. Amen

Whitchurch Values

Our School Values are love, courage and respect.

School statement on bullying

At Whitchurch C E Primary School we firmly believe that bullying is wrong and damages individuals. We believe that everyone is equal and we treat each other with dignity and respect. Our school is a place where everyone should be able to flourish in a loving and hospitable community. Bullying goes against the heart of our Christian values and Vision; we learn to show kindness to everyone, we respect and tolerate differences and with courage we stand up for what is right.

Aims and purpose of the policy

- To ensure a secure and happy environment free from threat, harassment, discrimination or any type of bullying behaviour.
- To create an environment where all are treated with dignity and respect and where all members of the school community understand that bullying is not acceptable.
- To ensure a consistent approach to preventing, challenging and responding to incidents of bullying that occur.
- To inform pupils and parents of the school's expectations and to foster a productive partnership which helps to maintain a bullying-free environment.
- To outline our commitment to continuously improving our approach to tackling bullying by regularly monitoring and reviewing the impact of our preventative measures.

Related policies: School Behaviour Policy, Equal Opportunities Policy

1. Definition of bullying

Bullying is hurtful, unkind or threatening behaviour which is deliberate and repeated. Bullying can be carried out by an individual or a group of people towards another individual or group, where the bully or bullies hold more power than those being bullied. If bullying is allowed it harms the perpetrator, the target and the whole school community and its secure and happy environment. It is recognised that vulnerable and SEND pupils are more likely to be victims of bullying and harassment. A close check is made on all SEND pupils and any issues are raised immediately with the SENCO.

The nature of bullying can be:

- Physical including threats of physical harm (e.g. hitting, kicking, pushing or inappropriate/unwanted physical contact)
- Verbal (e.g. name calling, ridicule, comments, discriminatory and offensive language)
- Cyber (e.g. messaging, social media, email)
- Emotional/indirect/segregation (e.g. excluding someone, spreading rumours, intentional ignoring)
- Visual/written (e.g. graffiti, gestures, wearing racist insignia)
- Damage to personal property or stealing.
- Coercive and harmful behaviour.
- Sharing of untrue information.
- Threat with a weapon
- Theft or extortion
- Persistent Bullying

Bullying can be based on any of the following things:

- Race (racist bullying)
- Sexual orientation (homophobic or biphobic)
- Special educational needs (SEN) or disability
- Culture or class
- Gender identity (transphobic)
- Gender (sexist bullying)
- Appearance or health conditions
- Religion or belief
- Related to home or other personal circumstances

2. Reporting bullying

Any child should not hesitate to speak to any member of staff if they are being bullied. If they do not feel brave enough to come forward alone they are encouraged to bring a friend, write a note or bring a parent.

Any child who witnesses bullying should tell any member of staff. If they don't feel able to speak directly to an adult they can write a note or bring a friend or a parent.

3. Reporting- roles and responsibilities

- Staff: All staff have a duty to challenge bullying (including HBT bullying and language), report bullying, be vigilant to signs of bullying and play an active role in the school's efforts to prevent bullying
- The school anti-bullying leads are: Mrs Pritchard, Headteacher and Mrs Dunwell, Deputy Headteacher
- Senior Leadership Team: The Senior Leadership team and the headteacher have overall responsibility for ensuring that the anti-bullying policy is followed by all members of staff and that the school upholds its duty to promote the safety and wellbeing of all young people.
- Parents/carers: Parents and carers also have a responsibility to look out for signs of bullying (e.g. distress, feigning illness, lack of concentration). Parents and carers should support their child to report the bullying.

Any parent can report bullying to Mrs Pritchard, Headteacher or Mrs Dunwell, Deputy Head Teacher. Please contact the school office by phone: 01256 892755 or email: adminoffice@whitchurch.hants.sch.uk

- Pupils: Pupils should not take part in any kind of bullying and should watch out for signs of bullying among their peers. Pupils should never be bystanders to incidents of bullying- they should offer support to the victim and encourage them to report it.

4. Responding to bullying

When bullying has been reported, the following actions will be taken:

1. Staff will investigate the report of bullying and will talk to all children who are involved.
2. Support will be offered to the target of the bullying from the pastoral team or class teacher, or through the use of restorative justice or other programmes.
3. Staff will proactively respond to the bully who may require support from the pastoral team or class teacher, or through the use of restorative justice or other programmes.
4. Staff will assess whether parents and carers need to be involved.
5. Staff will assess whether any other authorities (such as police or local authority) need to be involved, particularly when actions take place outside of school.
6. Staff will record the bullying on an incident reporting form and also record the incident centrally on CPOMS.
7. Designated school staff will monitor incident reporting forms and information recorded on CPOMS analysing the results.
8. Designated school staff will produce termly reports summarising the information which the headteacher will report to the governing body.

5. Bullying outside of school

Bullying is unacceptable and will not be tolerated, whether it takes place inside or outside of school. Bullying can take place on the way to and from school, before or after school hours, at the weekends or during school holidays, or in the wider community. The nature of cyber bullying in particular means that it can impact on pupils' wellbeing beyond the school day. Staff, parents and carers, and pupils must be vigilant to bullying outside of school and report and respond according to their responsibilities outlined in this policy.

6. Derogatory language

Derogatory or offensive language is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. This type of language can take any of the forms of bullying listed in our definition of bullying. It will be challenged by staff and recorded and monitored on CPOMS and follow up actions and sanctions, if appropriate, will be taken for pupils and staff found using any such language. Staff are also encouraged to record the casual use of derogatory language using CPOMS.

7. Prejudice based incidents

A prejudice based incident is a one-off incident of unkind or hurtful behaviour that is motivated by a prejudice or negative attitudes, beliefs or views towards a protected characteristic or minority group. It can be targeted towards an individual or group of people and have a significant impact on those targeted. All prejudice based incidents are taken seriously and recorded and monitored in school, with the headteacher regularly reporting incidents to the governing body. This not only ensures that all incidents are dealt with accordingly, but also helps to prevent bullying as it enables targeted anti-bullying interventions. These incidents will be recorded on CPOMS.

8. School strategies to prevent and tackle bullying

We use a range of measures to prevent and tackle bullying including:

- Our school vision is at the heart of everything we do and ensures that all members of the school community are revered and respected as members of a community where all are known and loved by God.
- We use a pupil-friendly anti-bullying policy to ensure that all pupils understand the policy and know how to report bullying. A copy of this is available in every class.
- The PSHE programme of study includes opportunities for pupils to understand about different types of bullying and what they can do to respond and prevent bullying. It also includes opportunities for pupils to learn to value themselves, value others and appreciate and respect difference.
- Collective worship explores the importance of inclusivity, dignity and respect as well as other themes that play a part in challenging bullying.
- Through a variety of planned activities and time across the curriculum pupils are given the opportunity to gain self-confidence and develop strategies to speak up for themselves and express their own thoughts and opinions.
- Circle Time provides regular opportunities to discuss issues that may arise in class and for teachers to target specific interventions.
- Stereotypes are challenged by staff and pupils across the school.

- Restorative justice systems provide support to targets of bullying and those who show bullying behaviour
- Pupils are continually involved in developing school-wide anti-bullying initiatives through consultation with groups e.g. through the school council, anti-bullying survey.
- Working with parents and carers, and in partnership with community organisations to tackle bullying where appropriate.

9. Training

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that all school staff receive regular training on all aspects of the anti-bullying policy.

10. Monitoring the policy

The Headteacher is responsible for monitoring the policy on a day-to-day basis. The Headteacher is responsible for monitoring and analysing the recorded data on bullying. Any trends should be noted and reported.

11. Evaluating and reviewing

The headteacher is responsible for reporting to the governing body (and the local authority where applicable) on how the policy is being enforced and upheld, via the termly report. The governors are in turn responsible for evaluating the effectiveness of the policy via the termly report and by in-school monitoring such as learning walks and focus groups with pupils. If further improvements are required the school policies and anti-bullying strategies should be reviewed.

The policy is reviewed every 12 months, in consultation with the whole school community including staff, pupils, parents, carers and governors.

Date of Last review:

Headteacher signed: *Cindy Pritchard*

Date: 14th January 2025

Chair of governors signed: Sharon Smith

Date: 14th January 2025