

BARTON ST PETER'S
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Anti-Bullying Policy
"Let Your Light Shine"
Matthew 5:16

This Policy reflects the content of the North Lincolnshire Anti-Bullying strategy.

Anti-bullying Policy

Barton St Peter's Church of England Primary School

Approved and adopted

This policy has been developed and implemented in consultation with the whole school community including, parents/carers, staff, governors and partner agencies.

Barton St Peter's Church of England Primary School acknowledges the assistance of North Lincolnshire County Council in providing content in this document.

To be reviewed September 2027

Staff Coordinator of Anti-bullying Mrs Amanda Bell Mrs Hannah Saul

Governor with Responsibility for Mrs Zoe Parsons (Safeguarding Governor)

Statement of Intent

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. If bullying does occur, all pupils should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a TELLING school. This means that anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff. This is supported and encouraged through our PSHCE curriculum and in our use of pupils as playground Buddies.

Objectives of this policy

- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is
- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff should know what the school policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported
- All pupils and parents should know what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises
- As a school we take bullying seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported
- Bullying will not be tolerated
- All pupils will be educated on what they can do if they feel they are being bullied (see Appendix 1)

What is bullying?

Bullying is behaviour that deliberately makes another person feel uncomfortable, distressed or threatened.

Bullying is repeated over time. (Several times on purpose)

Bullying makes those being bullied feel powerless to defend themselves.

Why are we against bullying?

'Every Child Matters'..... because:

- Everyone has the right to feel welcome, secure and happy
- We should treat everyone with consideration in order to support our school values
- Bullying is against the law

What types of bullying are there?

- Emotional (being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting, threatening behaviour, someone may do something so that someone else gets the blame)
- Verbal (name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing)
- Physical (pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence)
- Extortion (demanding money/goods with threats)
- Cyber (all areas of internet, email and internet chat room misuse)
 - Mobile threats by text messaging and calls
 - Misuse of associated technology i.e.: camera and video facilities including those on mobile phones, blackmail and humiliation by use of photographs or video on internet sites

- Racist (racial taunts, graffiti, gestures)
- Sexual
 - unwanted physical contact, sexually abusive comments
- Homophobic
 - focussing on the issue of sexuality
- Special needs and disability (physical, sensory or hidden, autism, dyslexia)
 - Mimicking
 - Fiddling with aids
 - Neglecting
- Gender
 - Can't do this you're a boy/girl

Bullying is not:

It is important to understand that bullying is not the odd occasion of falling out with friends, name-calling, arguments or when the occasional trick or joke is played on someone.

Children sometimes fall out or say things that can cause upset. When occasional problems of this kind arise it is not classed as bullying. It is an important part of children's development to learn how to deal with friendship breakdowns, the odd name-calling or childish prank. We all have to learn how to deal with these situations and the development of relationship social skills is to be viewed as a positive development.

How can we prevent Bullying?

All schools should foster a clear understanding that bullying, in any form, is not acceptable. This is done by:

- Developing an effective anti-bullying policy and practice. The school will then become a safer and happier environment, with consequent improvements in attitudes, behaviour, and relationships and with a positive impact on learning and achievement.
- Regular praise of positive and supportive behaviour by all staff.
- Work in school to develop empathy and emotional intelligence (SEAL).
- Any incidents treated seriously and dealt with immediately.
- Provide age-appropriate information (posters, leaflets) in school about bullying

Why is it important to respond to bullying?

Bullying Hurts!

Everybody has the right to be treated with respect.

Everybody has the right to feel happy and safe.

No one deserves to be a victim of bullying.

Bullies need to learn different ways of behaving.

Examples of where can bullying happen?

- In School
 - Toilets, playgrounds, corridors, cloakrooms, classrooms, dining hall, taking dinner money, stealing homework, picking on those who work hard

- On buses/journeys
 - being thrown off the back seat
 - Passing through unsafe areas
- In FE Colleges
 - Abuse from older students
- Extended Services
- Youth Services
- Play and Leisure
 - Home
 - Park
 - Playing out at home
- Work Experience
- Via the internet/text messaging

However, at Barton St. Peter's, we are also concerned with our children's conduct and welfare outside school and we will do what we can to support and address any bullying issues that occur off the school premises.

The following steps may be taken:

- Talk to the local Community Police Officer about problems on the streets
- Talk to the transport companies about bullying on school buses and in school taxis
- Talk to the Head Teachers of other schools whose children may be involved in bullying off the premises
- Discuss coping strategies with parents
- Talk to the children about how to handle or avoid bullying outside the school premises

What are the signs and symptoms of bullying?

A person may indicate by signs or behaviours that they are being bullied. Everyone should be aware of these possible signs and should investigate if the person;

- Is frightened of walking to or from school or changes route
- Doesn't want to go on the school/public bus
- Begs to be driven to school
- Changes their usual routine
- Is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
- Begins to truant
- Becomes withdrawn, anxious or lacking in confidence
- Becomes aggressive, abusive, disruptive or unreasonable
- Starts stammering
- Threatens or attempts suicide
- Threatens or attempts self harm
- Threatens or attempts to run away
- Cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- Feels ill in the morning
- Performance in school work begins to drop

- Comes home with clothes torn, property damaged or 'missing'
- Asks for money or starts stealing money
- Has dinner or other monies continually 'lost'
- Has unexplained cuts or bruises
- Comes home 'starving'
- Bullying others
- Changes in eating habits
- Is frightened to say what is wrong
- Afraid to use the internet or mobile phone
- Nervous or jumpy when a cyber message is received
- Gives improbable excuses for their behaviour
- Bedwetting
- Arrives late/home late

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

Bullying of children with Special Educational Needs

Barton St. Peter's is an inclusive school. We provide a secure, accepting, safe and stimulating environment where everyone is valued for who they are.

As an inclusive school we may have some children who have learning disabilities and/or communication difficulties at different times. Everyone involved in the school is very aware that these children can be especially vulnerable to bullying and we are therefore particularly vigilant at all times. High attainers, gifted or talented pupils can also be affected by bullying. Staff will treat this type of bullying as seriously and in the same way as any other type of bullying.

What causes Bullying?

People bully for different reasons.

The reasons could be:

- to feel powerful
- jealousy
- to feel good about themselves
- to be in control
- because they want something (attention, possession or friends)
- to look good in front of other people
- to feel popular
- because of peer pressure
- to be big/clever
- for fun
- because they are being bullied themselves
- because they see and pick on an easy target (small, won't tell anyone, lonely or different in some way)

Our school will respond promptly and effectively to reported incidents of bullying

What should happen in response to bullying?

All staff will respond calmly and consistently to all allegations and incidents of bullying. They will be taken seriously by all staff and dealt with impartially and promptly. All those involved will have the opportunity to be heard. Staff will protect and support appropriately all children involved whilst allegations and incidents are investigated and resolved. The following step-by-step procedure will be used for reporting and responding to bullying allegations or incidents.

- All bullying allegations and incidents will be treated seriously.
- Staff will make sure the victim(s) is and feels safe.
- Appropriate advice will be given to help the victim(s).
- Staff will listen and speak to all children involved about the incident separately.
- Attempts will be made to identify the problem and possible solutions suggested.
- Staff will attempt to adopt a problem solving approach, which will move children on from them having to justify their behaviour.
- Appropriate action will be taken quickly to end the bullying behaviour or threats of bullying.
- Staff will reinforce that bullying behaviour is unacceptable and what bullying is.
- The bully/ies may be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences may take place and appropriate sanctions applied (see next section)
- If possible, the pupils will be reconciled.
- An attempt will be made, and support given, to help the bully/ies understand the reasons for and change their behaviour.
- In cases of serious bullying, the incidents will be recorded by staff on 'Pink Behaviour Record Sheets' and retained in school.
- Parents will be informed and will be invited to come into school for a meeting to discuss the problem.
- After the incident has been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.
- Bullying incidents will be discussed regularly when appropriate amongst staff.
- If necessary and appropriate, the Child Protection Officer in school, Social Services or police will be consulted.

The following sanctions may be used:

- Apologies made to the victim(s) verbally or in writing
- Loss of privileges
- Loss of playtimes (stay with class teacher appropriate work given)
- Stay within Head Teacher's office
- Spend playtimes and lunchtimes with an adult
- Parents will be invited into school
- Be placed on a behaviour monitoring scheme

- Be removed from class and work elsewhere
- Report to the Head Teacher or Deputy Head Teacher
- Be withdrawn from participation in a school visit, clubs and events not essential to the curriculum
- Fixed term exclusion
- Permanent exclusion

Strategies for the prevention and reduction of bullying

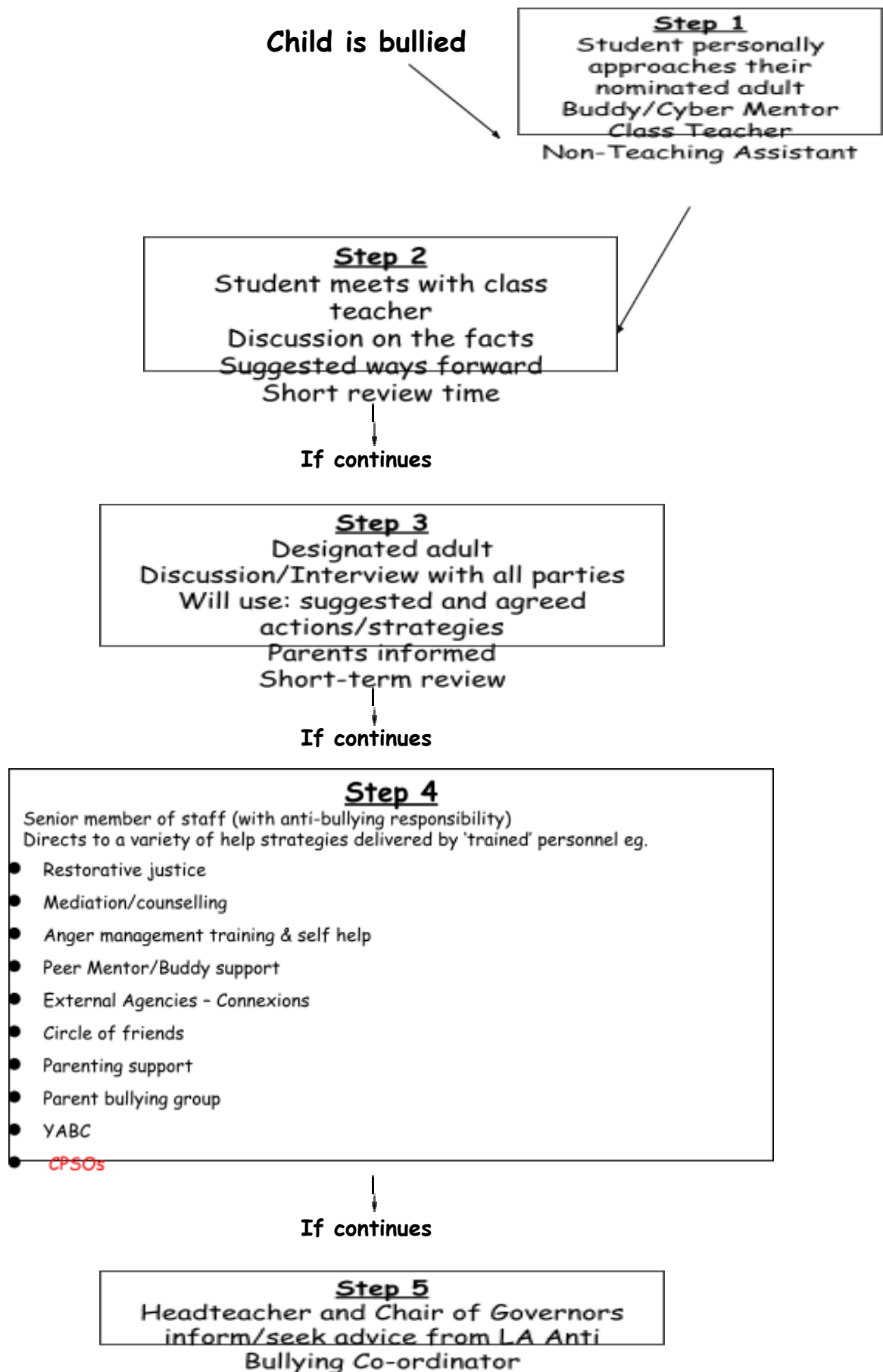
Whole school initiatives and proactive teaching techniques will be used throughout the school to develop a positive learning environment with the aim of reducing bullying. These can include:

- Whole school participation in National Anti Bullying week.
- Regular appropriate inclusion into whole school, key stage and class assemblies related to bullying issues
- PHSE (Personal, Health and Social Education) scheme of work from Foundation Stage to Year 6 used to support this policy
- Circle time on bullying issues
- Maintenance of the Buddy support network where a small group of children volunteer to help and support any individuals experiencing difficulties at playtimes. Buddies are provided with training appropriate to their tasks
- Children writing stories and poems and drawing pictures about bullying
- Children being read stories about bullying
- Using drama activities and role-play to help children be more assertive and teach them strategies to help them deal with bullying situations
- Creation of anti-bullying notice board(s)/displays within classrooms and/or corridors within school
- Prominently displaying anti-bullying posters produced by the children around the school
- Introducing and maintenance of playground improvements and initiatives i.e. stand alone/guided play activities and equipment
- Using praise and rewards to reinforce good behaviour
- Encouraging the whole school ethos of appropriate Christian behaviour towards one another
- Organising appropriate anti-bullying training for staff
- Buddies on DB Primary - allocated to a specific class

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. We actively promote the anti bullying message through the curriculum and equip our children and young people with coping strategies. Children are taught to recognise bullying wherever it happens, in school or out. Children are taught how to respond to keep them safe by telling an adult if it happens to themselves or others.

RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES IN SCHOOL FOR REPORTING BULLYING

PATHWAYS OF HELP



Support Agencies

Anti-bullying Alliance - the alliance brings together over 60 organisations into one network with the aim of reducing bullying. Their website has a parent section with links to recommended organisations who can help with bullying issues

www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Kidscape

www.kidscape.org.uk

02077303300

Childline - advice and stories from children who have survived bullying **08000 1111**

Bullying on line www.bullying.co.uk

Parentline Plus - advice and links for parents www.parentlineplus.org.uk 08088002222

Parents Against Bullying 01928 576152

Useful sources of information

Stonewall - the gay equality organisation founded in 1989. Founding members include Sir Ian McKellen. www.stonewall.org.uk.

Cyberbullying.org - one of the first websites set up in this area, for young people, providing advice around preventing and taking action against cyberbullying. A Canadian based site www.cyberbullying.org

Chatdanger - a website that informs about the potential dangers online (including bullying), and advice on how to stay safe while chatting www.chatdanger.com

Think U Know - the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP), has produced a set of resources around internet safety for secondary schools www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Know IT All for Parents and teachers - a range of resources for primary and secondary schools by Childnet International. Has a sample family agreement www.childnet-int.org/kia/parents

www.cybermentors.org.uk The Cyber Mentors website uses social networking to allow young people at different levels to mentor each other (many other links to other sites)

www.yhgfl.net For e-safety information.