

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

June 2022

previously updated in Feb 2019, 2017, 2016, 2014, 2012, 2011 and 2008

- Cheadle Heath Primary School reviewed the impact of our Anti-bullying policy and drafted a reviewed policy for consideration. We used the Stockport policy as a base for developing our own bespoke policy.
- The Governing Board discussed the draft policy at the Pupil Support Committee Meeting on xxxxx and ratified the policy at their full board meeting on xxxxx
- This policy forms part of the key induction information for new families and staff.
- The impact of this policy will be reviewed each year with a summary of issues raised at the Teaching, Learning and Assessment committee and the policy will be reviewed annually.

Date:

To be reviewed June 2024

Aims & purpose of the policy

At Cheadle Heath Primary school we are committed to working with children, staff, governors and parents/carers to create a school community where bullying is not tolerated.

At our school the safety, welfare and well being of all pupils and staff is a key priority. Our school is a place where people have the right to be themselves, to be included and to learn in a safe and happy environment. Everyone at our school is equal and treats each another with respect and kindness

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable and will identified and dealt with at our school. At our school the safety, welfare and well-being of all pupils and staff is a key priority. We take all incidences of bullying seriously and it is our duty as a whole school community to take measures to prevent and challenge any bullying, harassment or discrimination. We actively promote values of respect and equality and work to ensure that difference and diversity is celebrated across the whole school community. We want to enable our pupils to become responsible citizens and to prepare them for life in 21st Century Britain. These values reflect those that will be expected of our pupils by society, when they enter secondary school and beyond in the world of work or further study.

We are committed to improving our school's approach to tackling bullying and regularly monitor, review and assess the impact of our preventative measures.

We define bullying as:

Bullying is the purposeful choosing of behaviours that threaten, intimidate or hurt someone, which is often but not always, repeated overtime, which involves a real or perceived power imbalance.

We acknowledge that bullying takes many forms and may include, relationships, intimate relationships, online and face to face.

STOP

(Acronym can be applied to define bullying – Several Times On Purpose)

Identifying and supporting vulnerable children

We work closely in school to identify particularly vulnerable groups, perhaps minority ethnic groups, travellers, refugees, **LGBT pupils**, midterm arrivals, pupils who transfer late into the school, children in care, young carers and those with other special needs who may find it more difficult to make or sustain friendships.

As a school we plan positive action to support these pupils with all relevant staff members and provide additional support where necessary, for example peer support through buddy schemes and help them access clubs and out of school provision.

Who is bullied?

Anybody could be subject to bullying at any time in their life. It is not only something that affects children and young people.

A person is bullied when, either as an individual or part of a group, she or he suffers in any way from the direct result of intentional and persistent harassment and/or victimisation by another individual or group.

A person who has been bullied may commonly find it difficult to combat victim behaviour or report their experiences to those who may be able to help them.

When dealing with bullying we will use the Equality Act 2010 and refer to the nine protected characteristics.

Below are some factors that can increase vulnerability:

Some groups of children and young people are understood to be more susceptible to incidents of bullying (children who display bullying behaviours or children who are targeted), including those who:

- are in foster care or residential homes (looked after children)
- are understood to be at risk from a range of safeguarding or child protection issues i.e. safeguarding / organised crime groups
- have specific special educational needs (especially on the autistic spectrum)
- have a disability or impairment
- are from minority ethnic backgrounds
- are refugees or asylum seekers
- start a school or activity group mid term
- **are, or are perceived to be, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender or questioning of their sexuality or gender**
- speak a first language other than English
- are young carers
- have suffered bereavement
- have suffered domestic violence
- have experienced physical or emotional trauma
- have a parent that was a victim of bullying.
- experienced poverty or deprivation

Types of bullying:

There are a number of bullying behaviours which can be summarised as:

- Physical aggression – hitting, kicking, tripping up, spitting, taking or damaging property, use of threat or force in any way, intimidation or demands for money or goods
- Verbal – name calling, insulting, teasing, ‘jokes’, mocking, taunting, gossiping, secrets, threats. Reference to upsetting events e.g. bereavement, divorce, being in care
- Non-verbal – staring, body language, gestures
- Indirect – excluding, ostracising, rumours and stories, emails, chat rooms, messaging phones, notes, inappropriate gestures
- Cyber – text messaging, internet chat rooms, the use of social media applications such as Snapchat, Instagram or WhatsApp, the misuse of camera or video facilities (including the self-generated inappropriate images), offensive questions and nasty inbox messages.
 - **Emotional – threatening or humiliating**
 - **Exclusion – isolating individuals and controlling behaviour**
- Parental incitement

We acknowledge that some acts of bullying will constitute a criminal offence, and in these cases, other organisations will need to be contacted e.g. the Police or Social Care.

Peer-on-peer abuse can take various forms including serious bullying. There is no clear boundary between incidents that should be regarded as peer-on-peer abuse and incidents that would be considered as bullying. Our assessments will be made on a case by case basis.

Types of Bullying

Bullying can be based on any of the following:

- Race (racist bullying)
- Religion or belief
- Culture or class
- Gender (sexist bullying)
- Sexual orientation (homophobic or biphobic bullying)
- Gender identity (transphobic bullying)
- Special Educational Needs (SEN) or disability
- Appearance or health conditions
- Related to home or other personal situation
- Related to another vulnerable group of people

No form of bullying will be **accepted** and all incidents will be taken seriously.

Derogatory language

Derogatory or offensive language is not acceptable and will not be permitted. This type of language can take any of the forms of bullying listed in our definition of bullying. It will be all challenged by staff and recorded and monitored on CPOMS and follow up actions and consequences, 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 informal mechanisms such as a classroom log. Staff should be encouraged to report the use of derogatory language on CPOMS.

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 head teacher 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 intervention

Possible indicators of being a victim of bullying include:

We recognise that the following behaviours may suggest someone is being bullied or is bullying. However, we also recognise that the list is not exhaustive.

- disturbed sleep
- bed-wetting
- head and stomach aches
- problems with concentration,
- changes in behaviour and attitude
- truanting
- bullying other children
- damaged or missing clothes / money / property,
- asking for more money than usual or stealing money
- withdrawn or changes in their usual behaviour patterns or attitude
- distressed or emotional and finds it hard to articulate their feelings
- changes in their eating patterns
- changes in their online activity including not wanting to talk about it.
- shows evidence of self-harming or even for extreme cases **suicidal ideology**
- is unusually tired without a reasonable explanation
- has unexplained bruises or marks on their body, (some may refuse to change for PE)
- repeatedly comes to school without dinner money or a packed lunch
- seems afraid to be alone and requires more adult interaction.

We ask families to share any concerns with us as part of our duty of care for their child and we will share our concerns with them to support all our community as effectively as possible. This may mean that we as a school may need to help a child become aware of the impact of their behaviour/ attitudes or language on others and work with them over time to change.

Cheadle Heath Primary School initiatives to prevent and tackle bullying

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

Our wider curriculum is developed to ensure:

- All children understand the roles they can take in preventing bullying, including the role of bystanders.
- Proactive teaching and learning around how to build and maintain healthy relationships, including explicit work on how to appropriately manage conflict within relationships.
- A climate exists where bullying and violence are not tolerated
- Promote safe play areas
- Audit our site regularly to establish that children feel safe, especially known vulnerable areas
- Ensure that staff model positive relationships at all times
- Train all staff to identify and address bullying
- A child-friendly anti-bullying policy expressed through assemblies and the acronym STOP ensures all pupils understand and support the anti-bullying policy
- 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
- School assemblies help raise pupils' awareness of bullying and derogatory language
- **Difference and diversity are celebrated across the school through diverse displays, books and images. The whole school participates in events including Anti-Bullying Week, Black History Month, Children's Mental Health Week, Pride Week.**
- The school values of equality and respect are embedded across the curriculum to ensure that it is as inclusive as possible
- Stereotypes are challenged by staff and pupils across the school
- Restorative Approaches provide support for the harmed and harmer plus any other affected parties involved in any bullying incident.
- Pupils are consulted through the school council and pupil voice exercises so that they are involved in helping to develop anti-bullying initiatives.
- **The use of stereotypes and derogatory language are consistently challenged by staff and pupils across the school.**

Reporting – roles and responsibilities

STAFF:

All school staff, both teaching and non-teaching (for example midday supervisors) have a duty to report bullying, to be vigilant to the signs of bullying and to play an active role in the school's measures to prevent bullying. If staff are aware of bullying, they should reassure the pupils involved and inform their class teacher.

The following staff members are anti-bullying leads: Ms Meekley, Mrs Vallance, **Mrs Geary** and Mrs Murphy

SENIOR STAFF:

The Senior Leadership Team and the Head Teacher 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 well-being of all young people.

PARENTS AND CARERS:

Parents and Carers should look out for potential signs of bullying such as distress, lack of concentration, feigning illness or other unusual behaviour. Parents and carers should encourage their child not to retaliate, support, and encourage them to report the bullying when it occurs.

When parents have concerns, we would encourage them to speak with us at the earliest opportunity. We find that it is much more effective to speak to the school when an incident occurs and not to post it on social media as this may affect and delay any investigations and outcomes.

Parents and carers can report an incident of bullying to the school either in person, or by phoning or emailing the school office or a member of staff. Pupils should not take part in any kind of bullying and should watch out for signs of bullying among their peers. When finding themselves alongside an incident of bullying, they should attempt to offer support to the victim and, if possible, help them to tell a trusted adult.

Parents and Carers must also give due regard to and follow the principles of our *Respect Charter* on school premises towards pupils, staff and other parents.

Non-school staff, volunteers and outside organisations (Sports Coaches, music teachers, support services etc) also need to be made aware of the schools policy and the reporting of incidents.

Dealing with an Incident

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

- Staff will investigate and record the bullying on the school yellow incident reporting form and also record the incident centrally on CPOMS

Restorative meetings should be offered for any incident, this includes Race or Hate related including homophobic and transphobic incidents) Please note that participation in any restorative re pair meeting should be voluntary.

- Designated school staff will monitor incident reporting forms and information recorded on yellow forms or CPOMs analysing and evaluating the results
- Designated school staff will produce termly reports summarising the information, which the head teacher will report to the governing body
- Staff will offer support to all involved within a bullying incident. Individual meetings will be held with the harmer and the harmed to devise a plan of action that ensures all feel listened to and supported, and feel safe and reassured that with support there can be a resolution. This may involve a restorative meeting. Action plans will make use of Oasis, key personnel at playtimes and buddy systems.
- Staff will pro-actively respond to these plans, with the harmer and harmed parties possibly requiring support and work with other colleagues as appropriate.
- Staff will decide whether to inform parents or carers and where necessary involve them in any plans of action
- Staff will assess whether any other authorities (such as Police or the Local Authority) need to be involved, particularly when actions take place outside of school.

Safeguarding procedures must be followed when child protection concerns arise.

Bullying outside of school

Bullying is unacceptable and **may take 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 the holidays, or in the wider community. The nature of cyber bullying in particular means that it can impact on pupils' well-being 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 as outlined in this policy.

School will use their support systems when it becomes apparent that any incident of bullying is having an impact on an individual and/ or the school community

Training and Awareness

The Head Teacher is responsible for ensuring that all school staff, both teaching and non-teaching (including midday supervisors, caretakers, outside agencies and volunteers, parents and governors) receive regular training on all aspects of the anti-bullying policy, including proactive healthy relationship work.

Recording and Reporting:

We maintain a system of data collection and analysis in relation to any reported incidents of bullying in school. Termly feedback is made available for governors via the Headteacher report.

All staff will use the agreed reporting format to alert the HT/designated SLT member of any bullying related incidents.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

The head teacher 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 monitoring the effectiveness of the policy via the termly report, by in school monitoring such as learning walks, and focus groups with pupils. The policy is reviewed every 12 months, and a committee set up to oversee the review process.

Appendices

- Frequently asked questions
- Stockport's Anti-bullying Charter
- BSS Audit
- Anti-bullying Checklist for schools
- Organisations that can offer support

An Anti-Bullying Charter for Stockport Schools

This charter is awarded to

CHEADLE HEATH PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Bullying is the purposeful choosing of behaviours that threaten, intimidate or hurt someone, which is often, but not always, repeated over time, which involves a real or perceived power balance.

Our school community will:

- Work with staff, pupils and parents/carers to create a school community where bullying is not accepted.
- Discuss, monitor and review our anti-bullying policy every two years
- Keep a high profile in and around school to prevent bullying behaviours developing
- Support staff to promote positive relationships and identify and tackle bullying appropriately
- Investigate incidents of bullying and take action where necessary, supporting all individuals involved at all times
- Ensure that pupils are aware that all bullying concerns will be dealt with sensitively and effectively so that pupils feel safe to learn and that pupils abide by the anti-bullying policy
- Report back quickly to parents/carers regarding any concerns on bullying and deal promptly with complaints. Parents/carers in turn will work with the school to uphold the anti-bullying policy
- Learn and share good practice and utilise the support of the Local Authority and other agencies where appropriate

Chair of Governors:

Headteacher:

Representative of pupils:

Date:

Appendix A - Organisations that can offer Support

NAME	DETAILS	CONTACT
Anti Bullying Alliance	UK's leading organisation in the field of bullying. Lots of resources and information on the website.	0207 843 1165 National Children's Bureau, 8 Wakley Street, London EC1V 7QE www.antibullyingalliance.org
Beatbullying	Fully interactive 3D anti-bullying website. Organises local and regional seminars for young people, and establishes cross-community anti-bullying partnerships for young people who are disadvantaged socially, economically, personally or culturally.	020 8768 1017 77-79 Church Road, London SE19 2YA www.beatbullying.org
BM Schools Out / LGBT History Month	Provides formal and informal support network for all people who want to raise profile of homophobia, transphobia and heterosexism in education. Campaigns on LGBT issues as they affect education and those in education.	020 7635 0476 National London, London WC1N 3XX www.schools-out.org.uk www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk
Bully Free Zone	Specialist anti-bullying charity offering help, support and information to children young people and families affected by bullying. Also work in partnership with schools and local authorities.	01204 454958 23 Palace Street, Bolton BL1 2DR www.bullyfreezone.co.uk
Child Exploitation and Protection Online (CEOP)	Works across the UK supporting providing internet safety for children, young people and their families. Also delivers free education programmes – to children and young people, parents and professionals. "Polices" the internet.	0870 000 3344 33 Vauxhall Road, London SW1V 2WG www.ceop.gov.uk
Childline	UK's free 24 Helpline for children and young people to call about any worry – more calls on bullying than any other issue. Also run CHIPS (Childline in Partnership with Schools) – they work closely with schools to help them set up effective support for pupils.	020 7650 3231 45 Folgate Street, London E1 6GL www.childline.org.uk Helpline 0800 1111
Childnet	Non profit organisation working with others to help make the internet a great and safe place for children. KnowITAll, Digizen.org, Kidsmart, Young people and the internet, Young people and social networking	0207 639 6967 Studio 14, Brockley Cross Business Centre, 96 Endwell Road, London SE4 2PD www.childnet-int.org
LGBT Northwest	LGBT Youth North West is a regional organisation that seeks to support lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans young people in the North West of England	http://www.lgbtyouthnorthwest.org.uk
Kidscape	National charity dedicated to preventing bullying and child sexual abuse. They work with young people under the age of 16, and their parents / carers, plus people who work with them. Helpline for parents of children who've been bullied. Website info re keeping children safe. Assertiveness training for young people.	0207 730 3300 2 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DH Helpline 08451 205 204
MENCAP	UK's leading learning disability charity. Provides support for young people who have a learning disability and their parents / carers. Running a campaign to stop the bullying of young people with a learning disability.	0207 696 6019 123 Golden Lane, London EC1Y 0RT www.mencap.org.uk

NAME	DETAILS	CONTACT
NSPCC	Works to end cruelty to children, and provides a range of direct services for children and young people, and for their parents / carers and families. 24 Freephone Helpline.	0207 650 6855 Weston House, 42 Curtain Road, London EC2A 3 NH www.nspcc.org.uk Helpline 0808 800 5000
Parentline Plus	Biggest independent provider of parenting support in the country – national charity. Free confidential 24 hour Helpline. Run groups and workshops – face to face and by telephone. Also a free text phone for people who are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech impairment – 0800 783 6783	0207 824 5549 520 Highgate Studios, 53-79 Highgate Road, Kentish Town, London NW5 1TL www.parentlineplus.org.uk Helpline 0808 800 2222
Stonewall	Support schools prevent and tackle homophobic bullying and celebrate difference. Read more	
Terence Higgins Trust	Set up in response to the HIV epidemic, and has been at the forefront of the fight against HIV and AIDS ever since. Provides a very wide range of services, including support for young people with HIV / AIDS who are being bullied. Also emotional support via the telephone (Helpline).	0207 812 1600 314 – 320 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8DP www.tht.org.uk Helpline 0845 1221 200
Think U Know	This is a site from CEOP for children and young people and practitioners to focus on how to stay safe on line	www.thinkuknow.co.uk
UK Safer Internet Centre	Works across the UK to provide support for children and staff. They have a professionals helpline and useful resources to support safe and responsible use of the internet	www.saferinternet.org.uk professional's online safety helpline 0844 381 4772 helpline@saferinternet.org.uk
Victim Support	National charity for people affected by crime, including bullying. Free and confidential service. National Helpline, Victim Supportline, provides information, support and referral to local services.	0207 896 3769 Cranmer House, 39 Brixton Road, London SW9 6DZ www.are-you-ok.org.uk Helpline 0845 3030 900
Young Minds	National charity dedicated to improving the mental health of all babies, children and young people. Parents Information Service for anyone with concerns about the mental health of a child or young person. Wide range of publications covering issues affecting children, including bullying. Advice and support for young people contemplating self harm and suicide.	0207 336 1458 48-50 St John Street, Clerkenwell, London EC1M 4DG www.youngminds.org.uk

Cheadle Heath Primary School

Anti-Bullying Response Form

Date		
Discussion between:		
Outline of incidents:		

Action taken

Actions	Notes	Date
Conversation with pupils involved		
Conversation with parents		
Whole class conversations		
Midday supervisors informed		
Other staff informed		
Headteacher informed		
Follow up conversations with parents		
Follow up conversations with pupils		