



**Sharps Copse Primary School**  
**Prospect Lane**  
**HAVANT**  
**Hants**  
**PO9 5PE**

# Anti-bullying Policy 2022 - 2024

<b>Date:</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> May 2022
<b>Review Date:</b>	March 2024
<b>Responsibility:</b>	Headteacher
<b>Statutory, recommended or additional:</b>	Statutory
<b>Checked against Equalities Policy:</b>	Yes
<b>Linked Documents:</b> Child Protection Policy and Safeguarding Policy	

<b>Chair of Governors:</b> Mrs J. Towers	<b>Date:</b> 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2022
<b>Headteacher:</b> Mr M. Elsen	<b>Date:</b> 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2022

## 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 an adult in our school. We can then deal with the issue together.

## What is bullying?

Bullying is the use of **repeated and sustained** aggression with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

Bullying can be:

- Emotional repeatedly being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (eg, hiding books, threatening gestures);
- Physical repeatedly pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Racist racial taunts, graffiti, gestures;
- Sexual unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments;
- Transphobic because of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality;
- Verbal repeated name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing;
- Cyber - All areas of internet, such as email & internet chat room and social networking misuse. Mobile threats by text messaging & calls; misuse of associated technology ie, camera & video facilities.

Bullying includes prejudice based on SEN needs, sex, sexual orientation, race, religion and belief, gender reassignment or disability.

## The Law

Crime – some bullying incidents may involve a criminal offence or a civil breach of the law. For example, this could include physical and sexual assault (actual or threatened), cyber bullying, homophobic or racist incidents.

Duty of care – organisations and adults working with children must meet the legal requirements to safeguard children and prevent discrimination.

## Signs and Symptoms

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that he or she is being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and that they should investigate if a child:

- is frightened of walking to or from school;
- 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;
- starts stammering;
- attempts or threatens suicide or runs away;
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares;
- feels ill in the morning;
- begins to do poorly in school work;
- comes home with clothes torn or books damaged;
- has possessions which are damaged or "go missing";
- asks for money or starts stealing money (to pay bully);
- has dinner or other monies continually "lost";
- has unexplained cuts or bruises;
- comes home starving (money/lunch has been stolen);
- becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable;
- is bullying other children or siblings;
- stops eating;
- is frightened to say what's wrong;
- gives improbable excuses for any of the above;
- is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone;
- is nervous & jumpy when a cyber-message is received;

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

### **Why is it important to respond to bullying?**

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect. Pupils who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving.

### **How do we work to eliminate bullying?**

The creation of a positive, caring and secure environment within our schools will promote the conditions, which will enable effective teaching and learning to take place. Our work on promoting our core values will also focus on enabling children to become intrinsically motivated through reflecting on and evaluating actions, they have taken or failed to take.

Children and young people can both bully and be bullied at the same time. Some children and young people are more vulnerable to bullying because of their physical characteristics (such as height, weight or hair colour) or social characteristics (such as where they live, ethnicity, religion, disability or sexuality). Anyone can be bullied for any reason or difference.

Bullying of any kind, whether physical, verbal or indirect will not be tolerated in the school and sanctions will be applied in accordance with the Pupil Behaviour and

## **Anti-Bullying Guidelines**

We take this type of behaviour very seriously and actively seek to reduce its occurrence and impact through adherence to the following principles:

- Gather information annually about the level, nature and location of bullying and take preventative measures where possible;
- Promote in our children a sense of self-worth and respect for others through our focus on our school values;
- Promote a culture where children are willing to report incidents of bullying;
- Use the curriculum to raise children's awareness of bullying and to provide opportunities to discuss issues relating to bullying, responding to National Initiatives and events;
- Find out details and facts of reported incidents and ensure they are recorded appropriately;
- Offer protection and support to the victim of such behaviour and the bully;
- Ensure they are both helped to develop positive and assertive strategies to deal with future problems;
- Involve parents at an early stage;
- Involving pupils in supporting children during break times;
- Involve, when necessary, outside agencies such as Educational Psychologists and Special Needs Support Services and the Primary Behaviour Support Service;
- The governing body will review records kept of bullying incidents and judge the effectiveness of the anti-bullying policy.

### **Outcomes:**

- If possible, the pupils will be reconciled at a time interval determined by a headteacher, or the senior leadership team;
- The bully (bullies) may be asked to genuinely apologise. Age appropriate consequences will take place and will be documented;
- In serious cases, in-school isolation, fixed term exclusion or permanent exclusion will be considered as a last resort;
- After the specific incident/incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place and the effectiveness of the policy reviewed with parents concerned.

The school uphold a standard monitoring period of two weeks in the case of most reported incidents. This may be extended if the monitoring evidence determines that this is necessary.

### **Social Networking Issues:-**

The school takes all misuse of social networking very seriously and draw all parents' attention to the terms and conditions of these sites. In the majority of cases, these sites are prohibited to members under the age of 13 years old. The school draws all

parents' attention to the guidance on the appropriate use of social networking by adults. This can be viewed on our schools website by visiting [www.sharpscopse.hants.sch.uk](http://www.sharpscopse.hants.sch.uk) and ensures that all adults in the schools community are aware of the conduct required to avoid allegations of bullying on line. We have several assemblies on internet safety and link very closely with CEOP (see link below). We also regularly invite parents into to school to share the films we show our children during our internet safety assemblies.

The school is committed to ensuring that instances of bullying, including cyber bullying and prejudice based bullying are extremely rare and that pupils are acutely aware of different forms of bullying, appropriate to their age, and actively try to prevent it from occurring. The school will self-evaluate their effectiveness in securing this against the criteria for judging behaviour and attitudes in the school inspection handbook updated November 2019.

### **Prevention**

At Sharps Copse Primary School, all adults listen to our children if they have any concerns. We use the problem solving approach to solve any issues. We also have 5 safeguarding trained adults to help with any issue that needs more than this, who are our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) Mrs Cutting, Mr Elsen, Mrs Fairall, Mrs Stanworth and Mrs Wood.

Our school has curriculum content throughout the year that targets understanding and awareness of bullying issues. It is essential that the whole school community share the ethos of promoting self-worth and respect for others in children. Everyone should have a clear understanding, of what bullying is, how we can act to prevent it and measures which can be taken to deal with reported incident.

### **Bullying will not be tolerated**

**HELP ORGANISATIONS:** Please refer to the website hyperlinks to access sites.

Advisory Centre for Education (ACE)	0808 800 5793
Children's Legal Centre	0845 345 4345
KIDSCAPE Parents Helpline (Mon-Fri, 10-4)	0845 1 205 204
Parentline Plus	0808 800 2222
Youth Access	020 8772 9900
Bullying Online	<a href="http://www.bullying.co.uk">www.bullying.co.uk</a>

Visit the Kidscape website [www.kidscape.org.uk](http://www.kidscape.org.uk) for further support, links and advice.

## **Review and monitoring**

These procedures are monitored by the governing body termly and reviewed every **two years** or earlier if deemed necessary.