

Fairway School Anti - Bullying Policy

We believe that bullying, as an issue, should be treated seriously by all schools. Our aim is to prevent bullying and to give children an idea of the types of behaviours, which we identify as bullying. Challenging bullying effectively will improve the safety and happiness of pupils, show that the school cares and make clear to bullies that their behaviour is unacceptable.

What is bullying?

- Bullying is behaviour, which deliberately makes another person feel uncomfortable, distressed or threatened.
- Bullying is repeated over time.
- Bullying makes those being bullied feel powerless to defend themselves.

Why are we against bullying?

because:

- everyone has the right to feel welcome, secure and happy
- we should treat everyone with consideration
- if bullying happens it will be dealt with quickly and effectively
- it is important to tell someone

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school.

What types of bullying are there?

- Emotional (being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting, threatening behaviour)
- 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
- Racist (racial taunts, graffiti, gestures)
- Sexual (inappropriate physical contact, sexually abusive comments)
- Homophobic (because of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality)

Bullying outside a school's premises:

Schools are not directly responsible for bullying off their premises. A Court judgement ruled that the head's duty of care to prevent bullying generally only applied within the precincts of a school, although exceptionally failure to take disciplinary steps to combat harmful behaviour outside the school might breach the school's common law duty of care. A good deal of bullying takes place outside the school gates, and on journeys to and from school. The bullying may be by pupils of the school or pupils of other school or people not at school at all.

We encourage children not to suffer in silence. Where a child tells us of bullying off the school premises the school may choose to:

- ⊗ talk to the local police
- ⊗ talk to the Head Teacher of another school
- ⊗ talk to pupils about how to avoid or handle bullying outside the school premises

Through being more aware of bullying in school it is hoped that:

1. staff will be more vigilant and responsive to bullying behaviour
2. a majority of children feel that there is generally less bullying in school.

At Fairway we are committed to preventing bullying through:

- anti - bullying curriculum time / assemblies
- circle time
- PSHE lessons
- Circle groups
- Buddies
- Young Leaders

Bullying and conflict often arise from 'play fighting' and jocular verbal abuse, this behaviour is not allowed at Fairway.

Staff awareness raising and training

Staff awareness of bullying is raised through meetings and informal discussions where children's pastoral welfare is discussed and incidents shared. All staff are required to remain constantly alert to bullying and the need to reduce the risk of it arising. They pay particular attention to times and locations where bullying might be more prevalent, such as break time. Staff failing to deal with an incident appropriately will be required to undergo further training.

RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES IN SCHOOL FOR REPORTING BULLYING

PATHWAYS OF HELP

(All schools will have their own referral procedures)

