



Summerseat Methodist Primary School

Anti-Bullying Policy

This policy was adopted by the Governing Body on Monday 23rd February 2015.

At Summerseat Methodist Primary School we aim to provide a caring and secure environment for all of our school family.

Definition of bullying

Bullying is distinct from conflict which is part of everyday life. It is not;

- A one off fight or argument
- An argument with a friend
- Falling out with friends

Bullying is behaviour which *deliberately* makes another person feel uncomfortable, distressed or threatened and

is repeated over time

can make those being bullied feel powerless to defend themselves.

We use the acronym STOP (Several Times On Purpose) to help our school community understand and identify when a situation can be described as bullying.

Why are we against bullying?

We continue to believe in the principles of the “Every Child Matters” agenda and we acknowledge that:

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

Types of bullying

- Emotional - e.g. being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting, threatening behaviour
- Verbal - e.g. name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- Physical - e.g. pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Extortion - e.g. demanding money / goods with threats
- Cyber - e.g. bullying that takes place online or through your mobile phone
- Racist - e.g. racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Sexual - e.g. unwanted physical contact, sexually abusive comments
- Homophobic - e.g. because of or focussing on the issue of sexuality

There is a zero tolerance towards any type of bullying at SMPS.

Signs and symptoms of bullying

A person may indicate by signs or behaviours that they are being bullied. A list of possible signs is included in Appendix A.

Causes of bullying

People bully for different reasons. Often it is to do with gaining power over someone else, or “looking good” in front of other people.

SMPS aim to eradicate bullying that excludes others from their rights to play and participate in games at playtimes.

Preventing bullying

Our whole school family has a responsibility to foster a clear understanding of what bullying is and that it is not acceptable in any form. At Summerseat Methodist Primary School we do this by:

- developing and reviewing an effective anti-bullying policy and practice
- Developing the role of our pastoral worker
- building positive relationships so that all children feel safe to share any concerns with an adult in school
- providing regular staff development work
- planning in regular work, through the PSHCE curriculum, which develops empathy and emotional intelligence
- planning in regular work which focuses on the theme of anti-bullying
- planning in regular work on E-Safety through the ICT curriculum
- Consistent use of the playground Code of Conduct that reinforces children’s rights and responsibilities using UNICEF’s rights of the child



Responsibilities of all stakeholders

It is important to respond promptly and effectively to reported incidents of bullying. No-one deserves to be a victim of bullying and everybody has the right to feel happy and safe in school.

Our staff will:

- Foster in our pupil's self-esteem, self-respect and respect for others
- Demonstrate by example the high standards of personal and social behaviour we expect of our pupils.
- Discuss bullying with all classes, so that every pupil learns about the damage it causes to both the child who is bullied and to the bully and the importance of telling a teacher about bullying when it happens.
- Be alert to signs of distress and other possible indications of bullying.
- Listen to children who have been bullied, take what they say seriously and act to support and protect them.
- Report suspected cases of bullying to (Mr Ollis our designated teacher for child protection).
- Follow up any complaint by a parent about bullying, and report back promptly and fully on the action which has been taken.
- Deal with observed instances of bullying promptly and effectively, in accordance with agreed procedures
- Develop good citizenship at Summerseat
- Remind the children what they should do - STOP (Start Telling Other People) if they or someone they know is being bullied.
- Reinforce that we are a telling school - this means that anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff.
- having in place a detailed procedure for dealing with reported incidents of bullying (see Appendix B)

Support agencies

There are a number of agencies who can support the teaching of the anti-bullying theme in school and who can offer support to staff and children.

A list is included in Appendix E

Monitoring and Review

It is the responsibility of the Head Teacher to monitor the day-to-day implementation of this policy.

Details of bullying will be reported to Governors in the Head teachers termly report

It will be reviewed on a bi-annual basis by the Governing Body.

Other related policies: E-safety Policy, Whistle Blowing, General Complaints Procedure

Appendix A

Possible Signs and Symptoms of Bullying

- Is frightened of walking to / from school
- Changes route to school - asks to be driven instead of walking
- Changes to their usual routine
- Is unwilling to come to school
- 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

Appendix B

Procedure for dealing with reported incidents of bullying

1. Initially, any incidents of bullying should be reported to the child's class teacher
2. The "victim" will meet with the class teacher who will note down the alleged incidents
3. The class teacher will meet with the "perpetrator" and discuss the incidents and note down the response
4. If appropriate, the "victim" and "perpetrator" will meet jointly with the class teacher to discuss possible ways forward
5. Details of the alleged incidents, together with a résumé of the discussions, are recorded on the form in Appendix C
6. Parents of both parties will be informed by the class teacher
7. The situation will be reviewed by the class teacher after a week and then after a month
8. Details of this review will be recorded on the form in Appendix C
9. The forms in Appendix C will be passed to the head teacher and stored in the office
10. If the incidents continue or worsen, the head teacher will then interview all parties (a résumé will be recorded on the form in Appendix D)
11. The head teacher will meet with parents and agree actions to be taken (recorded on the form in Appendix D)
12. The head teacher will review the situation after a week and then after a month
13. Details of the review will be recorded on the form in Appendix D
14. All incidents will be reported to the Governing Body and Local Authority on a termly basis
15. All incidents will be recorded on the SMART system

Appendix C
Initial Record of Alleged Incidents of Bullying

Incidents reported by _____ to _____

Date _____

Details of alleged incidents:
Discussion with “victim” (date: _____)
Discussion with “perpetrator” (date: _____)
Outcomes / agreed actions (date: _____)
Date parents informed: Victim _____ Perpetrator _____
Review after 1 week (date: _____)
Review after 1 month (date: _____)

Date form received by head teacher: _____ Reference number: _____

Head teacher’s comments:

Appendix D
Further Record of Alleged Incidents of Bullying

Reference number: _____ Date: _____

Additional details not included on initial record
Discussion with “victim” (date: _____)
Discussion with “perpetrator” (date: _____)
Outcomes / agreed actions from meeting with victim’s parents (date: _____)
Outcomes / agreed actions from meeting with perpetrator’s parents (date: _____)
Review after 1 week (date: _____)
Review after 1 month (date: _____)

Further comments (date: _____)

Appendix E

Support Agencies

Local Authority Anti Bullying Co-ordinator

Lesley Davidson l.davidson@bury.gov.uk 0161 253 5884

Anti-bullying alliance www.antibullyingalliance.org.uk

Kidscape www.kidscape.org.uk 020 773 3300

Childline 08000 11 11

Bullying online www.bullying.co.uk

Parentline plus www.parentlineplus.org.uk 0808 800 2222

Parents against bullying 01928 576152

Useful sources of information

Stonewall www.stonewall.org.uk

Cyber bullying www.cyberbullying.org

Chat danger www.chatdanger.com

Know IT All for Parents www.childnet-int.org/kia/parents