

Anti-Bullying Policy 2026

Introduction

At Park View Primary School, we strive to create and maintain a calm, positive ethos where mutual respect, tolerance, and understanding are highly valued.

This policy is guided by key principles from the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)**:

- **Article 19:**
States Parties shall take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social, and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s), or any other person who has the care of the child.
- **Article 29:**
Education shall aim to develop respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and prepare the child for a responsible life in a free society, in the spirit of understanding, peace, tolerance, equality of sexes, and friendship among all peoples, ethnic, national, and religious groups.

What is Bullying?

Bullying is **deliberate and repeated behaviour** intended to hurt, frighten, or upset another person. It can take many forms, including:

- **Physical bullying:** hitting, kicking, or pushing.
- **Verbal bullying:** name-calling, teasing, or using hurtful language.
- **Social bullying:** excluding someone on purpose or spreading rumours.
- **Online (cyber) bullying:** using digital platforms to send harmful messages or share hurtful content.

Bullying is not the same as a one-time disagreement or accident. It involves an imbalance of power and repeated harmful actions.

The Government Definition of Bullying

Although there is no legal definition of bullying, it is commonly described as behaviour that is:

- **Repeated**
- **Intended to cause harm** (physical or emotional)
- **Creates an imbalance of power**, leaving the victim feeling defenceless
- Often targeted at specific groups (e.g., race, religion, gender, sexual orientation)

Forms of bullying include:

- Physical assault
- Teasing or name-calling
- Making threats
- Cyberbullying (via mobile devices or online platforms)

Why is it important to respond to Bullying?

Bullying causes harm. Every child has the right to feel safe and respected. Pupils who bully others need guidance to change their behaviour. Schools have a duty to respond promptly and effectively to all bullying concerns.

Statement of Intent

At Park View Primary School, we commit to:

- Promoting a **rights-respecting, anti-bullying culture**.
- Raising awareness through **PSHE lessons** and **annual Anti-Bullying Week**.
- Ensuring all bullying incidents are addressed **immediately and effectively**, involving all parties and monitoring future situations.

How Do We Deal with Bullying?

Staff Responsibilities

- Implement procedures to address bullying in any form.
- Listen to all parties involved.
- Investigate incidents promptly and thoroughly.
- Take appropriate action or refer to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT).
- Inform parents/carers of both the victim and the perpetrator in cases of persistent or serious bullying.
- Apply appropriate procedures for staff-related incidents.
- Promote inclusive teaching strategies that challenge bullying behaviour.
- Encourage open communication within the school and with relevant external agencies.
- Model the school's core values.
- Use interventions that are least intrusive yet most effective.
- Deliver PSHE lessons and assemblies to raise awareness and provide guidance for pupils.

Recording and Reporting

All bullying incidents are recorded on CPOMS and reported to the Full Governing Body (FGB) as part of the Safeguarding Report. The school will:

- Speak to all parties involved.
- Inform parents/carers.
- Ensure a satisfactory resolution for everyone.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The SLT and FGB will monitor and review bullying incidents regularly to ensure the effectiveness of this policy.