

Lansbury Lawrence Primary School



Anti-Bullying Policy

Anti-Bullying Policy – Reviewed November 2015

Due to be reviewed – November 2016

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

1. Our Values Statement

1.1 At Lansbury Lawrence Primary School, we are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils so they can learn in a happy and secure atmosphere. We believe that everybody has the right to be treated with respect, and that 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.

Anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell a member of staff.

2. What Is Bullying?

2.1 Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim. We recognise that bullying can take many forms:

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

Signs and Symptoms

2.2 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
- 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- becomes withdrawn, anxious, or lacking in confidence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 unexplained cuts or bruises
- 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 and jumpy when a cyber message is received.

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

2.4 Any child (or adult on their behalf) who reports bullying about themselves or one of their peers should be taken seriously and investigated. Bullying can be an issue of perception and this can be harmful to a child even if bullying has not occurred.

3. Goals and Objectives of this Policy

3.1 Our Anti Bullying Policy works in conjunction with our behaviour policy, and aims to achieve the following:

- All children feeling safe and able to learn, play, and enjoy the company of others
- All children treated fairly, with respect, and dignity
- All children able to be heard and their emotional concerns taken seriously
- All children aware of what bullying is and is not, and able to report their concerns in the knowledge that action will be taken where appropriate.

3.2 We aim to achieve this by:

- Taking positive action to prevent bullying from occurring through a clear school policy on personal and social development
- Showing commitment to overcoming bullying by practising zero tolerance
- Informing pupils and parents of the school's expectations and fostering a productive partnership, which helps maintain a bully-free environment
- Making staff aware of their role in fostering the knowledge and attitudes which will be required to achieve the above aims.

3.3 All governors and teaching and non-teaching staff should know what the school policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported.

3.4 All pupils and parents should know what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises.

3.5 As a school we take bullying seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.

4. Strategies Employed to Address Issues of Bullying

4.1 Procedures

1. Report bullying incidents to staff
2. Bullying incidents will be recorded by staff and will be stored in the Behaviour Log in the Deputy Head Teacher's office and serious incidents are reported to Tower Hamlets
3. In serious cases parents should be informed and will be asked to come to a meeting to discuss the problem
4. If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted
5. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly

6. Support will be made to help the bully (bullies) recognise and change their behaviour – this will usually be done in tandem with the class teacher and learning mentor
7. Support will be made to the victim(s) of bullying to help build self-esteem – this will usually be done in tandem with the class teacher and learning mentor.

4.2 Outcomes

- The bully (bullies) will be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences may follow. The Behaviour Policy should be referred to as it outlines our sanctions system.
- In serious cases, suspension or even exclusion will be considered
- If possible, the pupils will be reconciled
- After the incident/incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

4.3 Prevention

- Lansbury Lawrence Primary School acts to prevent and counter bullying through a raft of explicit anti-bullying interventions alongside more implicit positive behaviour reinforcement activities. As outlined in our Behaviour Policy, we place a great deal of emphasis on encouraging and supporting children to treat each other and adults with respect and kindness. We model and reward considerate behaviour towards others and make clear the values of respect.
- Children are helped to take responsibility for their actions and, just as importantly, to make amends for any misdemeanour. By doing so, the likelihood of bullying behaviour is diminished, as children are called to account for their actions, as well as secure in the knowledge that if they have experienced bullying by others, action is taken by the school.
- Lansbury Lawrence Primary School recognises the UK national Anti-Bullying Week annually – raising awareness of what bullying is and isn't, and how to respond to bullying. Teaching teams reinforce learning throughout the year through PHSE sessions with their class.