

Blackwell First School



Anti- bullying Policy

Anti-bullying Policy

Vision:

At Blackwell we aim to educate the whole child and to ensure children are happy, healthy and fulfil their potential in terms of the development of skills for life, social and moral values and academic success.

Introduction

Bullying can be described as being “a deliberate act done to cause distress solely in order to give a feeling of power, status or other gratification to the bully. It can range from ostracising, name calling, teasing, threats and extortion, through to physical assaults on persons and/or property.

(This is in line with the DCSF Safe to Learn 2007 guidance).

Aims and objectives

At Blackwell we recognise that everyone, irrespective of gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, age or disability, should feel good about themselves. Everyone deserves to feel safe.

At Blackwell First School we acknowledge that bullying can occur. We therefore do all we can to prevent it, by developing a school ethos in which bullying is regarded as unacceptable.

We aim, as a school, to produce a safe and secure environment where all can learn without anxiety. We have a curriculum that supports the prevention of extremist or radical views.

This policy aims to produce a consistent school response to any bullying incidents that may occur.

We aim to make all those connected with the school aware of our opposition to bullying, and we make clear each person’s responsibilities with regard to the eradication of bullying in our school.

The role of governors

The governing body supports the headteacher in all attempts to eliminate bullying from our school. This policy statement makes it very clear that the governing body does not condone bullying to take place in our school, and that any incidents of bullying that do occur are taken very seriously and dealt with appropriately.

The governing body monitors the incidents of bullying that occur, including homophobic bullying where applicable and radical or extremist views, and reviews the effectiveness of the school policy regularly. The governors require the headteacher to keep accurate

records of all incidents of bullying and to report to the governors on request about the effectiveness of school anti-bullying strategies.

The governing body responds within ten days to any request from a parent to investigate incidents of bullying. In all cases, the governing body notifies the headteacher and asks him/her to conduct an investigation into the case and to report back to a representative of the governing body.

The role of the headteacher

It is the responsibility of the headteacher to implement the school anti-bullying strategy and to ensure that all staff members (both teaching and non-teaching) are aware of the school policy and know how to deal with incidents of bullying. The headteacher reports to the governing body about the effectiveness of the anti-bullying policy on request.

The headteacher ensures that all children know that bullying is wrong, and that it is unacceptable behaviour in and out of school. The headteacher ensures that all staff receives sufficient training to be equipped to deal with all incidents of bullying.

The headteacher sets the school climate of mutual support and praise for success, so making bullying less likely. When children feel they are important and belong to a friendly and welcoming school, bullying is far less likely to be part of their behaviour. (See Behaviour Policy)

The role of the teacher/ headteacher

Teachers in our school take all forms of bullying seriously, and intervene to prevent incidents from taking place. They report all incidents of bullying to the head teacher and senior teacher. All staff members are informed in order to raise awareness of bullying incidents and to support monitoring.

If teachers witness an act of bullying, they do all they can to support the child who is being bullied. If a child is being bullied then, after consultation with the headteacher, the teacher/ head teacher informs the child's parents.

We keep an anti-bullying logbook in the office where the headteacher/ senior teacher record all incidents of bullying that occur inside and outside lesson time, either near the school or on the children's way home or to school. If any adult witnesses an act of bullying, they should report the event to the head teacher or senior teacher.

After witnessing bullying, we then invite the child's (bully and victim) parents into the school to discuss the situation. In more extreme cases, for example where these initial discussions have proven ineffective, the headteacher may contact external support agencies such as the social services.

Teachers attempt to support all children in their class and to establish a climate of trust and respect for all. By praising, rewarding and celebrating the success of all children, we aim to prevent incidents of bullying.

Bullying is punished through the agreed school sanctions. An indoor play area may be provided as necessary for children who find outdoor play a challenge.

The role of parents/ children

Parents who are concerned that their child might be being bullied, or who suspect that their child may be the perpetrator of bullying, should contact their child's class teacher/ head teacher immediately.

All children should report suspected bullying to the head teacher or class teacher- witnesses and victims.

Parents have a responsibility to support the school's anti-bullying policy and to actively encourage their child to be a positive member of the school.

Monitoring and review

This anti-bullying policy is the governors' responsibility and they review its effectiveness annually. They do this by discussion with the headteacher. Governors analyse information with regard to gender, age and ethnic background of all children involved in bullying incidents. Parental and pupil questionnaires provide additional monitoring.