



THE DEANES SCHOOL

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Policy: Anti-Bullying
(Replaces June 2012)

Effective from
February 2015

Authorised

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Headteacher:.

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Chair of Curriculum Committee

Date:



THE DEANES SCHOOL ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Statement of Intent

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. 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. We are a school where open communication is valued and encouraged. This means that *anyone* who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff.

What Is Bullying?

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

Bullying can be:

- 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 & internet chat room misuse
Mobile threats by text messaging & calls
Misuse of associated technology, i.e. camera & video facilities.

Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying?

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect. Pupils who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving.

The governors, staff and students at The Deanes School are very aware of and take their responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying very seriously.

Objectives of this Policy

- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- All governors and teaching and non-teaching staff should know what the school policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported.
- All pupils and parents should know what the school policy is on bullying and what they should do if bullying arises.
- As a school we take bullying seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.



- Bullying will not be tolerated.

Signs and Symptoms

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 consider bullying is the cause if a child:

- is frightened of walking to or from school
- doesn't want to go on the school / public bus
- 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
- has dinner or other monies continually "lost"
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- comes home hungry (money / lunch has been stolen)
- 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

Of course, these signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated.

Procedures.

Students should

- Report bullying incidents to staff, initially the form tutor
- In cases of serious bullying, the incidents will be recorded by staff on a bullying log form and also on SIMS

Staff Should

- Always listen to what students tell them
- Work with the student to resolve the issue
- Record serious issues on a 'Bullying Form' and return to Miss K Hampstead.



- The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly.
- In serious cases, Heads of House will be informed and parents invited to a meeting to discuss the problem
- An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour

Outcomes

- The bully (bullies) may be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences may take place.
- 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.
- In serious cases, a fixed term exclusion or even a permanent exclusion will be considered

Prevention

- We have a strong school code of conduct which is based on rights and responsibilities with respect as a clear thread running throughout. This forms the basis of much of our pastoral work
- Bullying is an issue dealt with in PCE lessons and in the pastoral programme
- We have anti – bullying weeks when a particular emphasis is put on bullying and its consequences.

HELP ORGANISATIONS:

Advisory Centre for Education (ACE)	0808 800 5793
Children's Legal Centre	0845 345 4345
KIDSCAPE Parents Helpline (Mon-Fri, 10-4)	0845 1 205 204
Parentline Plus	0808 800 2222
Youth Access	020 8772 9900
Bullying Online	www.bullying.co.uk

Visit the Kidscape website www.kidscape.org.uk for further support, links and advice.

LINKED POLICIES:

The Deanes School Single Equality Scheme