

Anti-Bullying

Bullying is unacceptable and will not be ignored or tolerated. The School will always take action and follow up any observed or reported incidents of bullying. We also aim to reduce the opportunity for bullying through teaching children to condemn and report it, effective supervision and good systems to reduce any opportunity for it to happen.

Anti-Bullying Policy Introduction:

At Ashbury Meadow Primary School, we are aware that pupils may be bullied in any school or setting, and recognise that preventing, raising awareness and consistently responding to any cases of bullying should be a priority to ensure the safety and well-being of our pupils. In line with the Equality Act 2010 it is essential that our school:

- Eliminates unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it; and
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

At Ashbury Meadow Primary School, we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Under the Children Act 1989 a bullying incident should be addressed as a child protection concern when there is 'reasonable cause to suspect that a pupil is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm'. Where this is the case, the school staff should report their concerns to their designated person who will inform the local authority using the procedures set out in the school's Safeguarding policy..

Rights: It is the responsibility of the governing body and the Headteacher to ensure that all members of the school community work within a safe and enabling environment. Our vision is that pupils will be inquisitive and eager to learn and will be taught by inspirational staff in an outstanding learning environment. Within this environment both pupils and staff will feel safe, respected and supported. Their success will be recognised and celebrated. Pupils will enjoy each other's company and take responsibility for their own actions.

Pupils are taught these values from the moment a pupil enters our school, and throughout their time at Ashbury Meadow Primary School. Alongside this our school community has four basic rights. They are:

- Children have a right to learn
- Teachers have a right to teach
- Everybody has a right to safety (physical and psychological)
- Everybody has a right to dignity and respect

We teach these values and rights throughout school and appreciate that pupils develop and learn in different ways and at different rates including pupils with special educational needs and disabilities.

Aims :

We are determined to promote and develop a school ethos where bullying behaviour is regarded as unacceptable, to ensure a safe and secure environment is sustained for all pupils. We aim for all pupils to reach their potential academically, socially and personally through learning and playing in a safe and secure environment.

Bullying Definition:

At Ashbury Meadow Primary School, we discuss what bullying is, as well as incidents we would not describe as bullying, with all pupils through keeping safe assemblies and PSHE lessons. We agree that:

- Bullying is usually physical hurting, name calling, nasty looks or leaving people out.
- Bullying usually happens when the relationship is imbalanced.
- Bullying is usually on-going.

Types of Bullying:

Cyber-Bullying The rapid development of, and widespread access to, technology has provided a new medium for 'virtual bullying', which can occur in and outside school. Cyber-bullying is a different form of bullying which can happen beyond the school day into home and private space, with a potentially bigger audience, and more accessories as people forward on content.

Racist Bullying

This refers to a range of hurtful behaviour, both physical and psychological, that make the person feel unwelcome marginalised and excluded, powerless or worthless because of their colour, ethnicity culture, faith community, national origin or national status. It can also refer to activities that are aimed at creating radicalisation or extremism.

Homophobic Bullying

This occurs when bullying is motivated by a prejudice against lesbian, gay or bisexual people.

Vulnerable Groups

We recognise that some groups of pupils may be more vulnerable to bullying, including:

- Looked After Children
- Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children
- Children with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND)
- Children from ethnic minorities

- Children entitled to Free School Meals
 - Children for whom English is an Additional Language
 - Children who are perceived to be gay, lesbian or bisexual
- Bullying Prevention Preventing and raising awareness of bullying is an essential to keeping incidents in our school to a minimum.

Through moral and keeping safe assemblies as well as PSHE lessons, pupils are given regular opportunities to discuss what bullying is, as well as incidents we would not describe as bullying, such as two friends falling out, or a one-off argument. Pupils are taught to tell an adult in school if they are concerned that someone is being bullied.

Visitors such as theatre groups also enable pupils to investigate the effects of bullying and ways we can stop it. School council is actively engaged in our anti bullying campaign and anti -bullying posters, including child line, are visible throughout school.

Code of Conduct

Our school Code of Conduct is regularly promoted in assemblies and displayed throughout the school. Through pupils following these rules, and staff reinforcing them, bullying should be significantly reduced.

Our Code of Conduct is as follows:

There are six values in school:

1. Be kind and friendly - no swearing, name-calling or put-downs.
2. Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.
3. Follow an instruction given by an adult first time.
4. Walk around school quietly
5. Take care of yourself, each other and our school.
6. Think before you speak, think before you act.

Behaviour Policy

Our Behaviour Policy includes rewards and sanctions which are used consistently, alongside positive relationships, to prevent inappropriate behaviour, and promote positive behaviour. Where issues arise restorative justice is used as a form of mediation. All forms of bullying incidents, including racist and homophobic are logged on SIMs and each half term the behaviour log is reviewed for whole school issues. These are then targeted in our keeping safe and also our moral values assemblies.