

## REDFIELD EDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

### ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

#### Policy

It is the policy of Redfield Edge Primary School not to accept any form of bullying within the school environment.

#### Definition

##### **Bullying is considered to be:**

- Deliberately hurtful (including aggression)
- Repeated, often over a period of time
- Difficult for victims to defend themselves against (physically and emotionally)

##### **Forms of bullying may include:**

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>Physical</b>  | Any form of violence or threat, hitting, kicking or taking belongings   |
| <b>Verbal</b>    | Name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, persistent teasing, making offensive remarks, insulting.  |
| <b>Emotional</b> | Excluding, tormenting, ridicule, humiliation, spreading rumours.  |
| <b>Racist</b>    | Taunts, graffiti, gestures.   |
| <b>Sexual</b>    | Unwanted physical contact, abusive comments   |
| <b>Cyber</b>     | By text / video messaging, chatrooms, instant messaging, email and internet. This is becoming an increasing problem with the following main differences to other types of bullying:<br>Can take place at any time (day or night), invades the home and personal space<br>The audience can be very large and reached rapidly<br>Cyber bully make attempt to remain anonymous<br>Cyber bullying incidents can be used as evidence<br>See Cyberbullying – A whole school community issue (DCSF / Childnet International) |

#### Aims and objectives

- Bullying is wrong and damages the individuals concerned (bully and victim) and the school environment. 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.
- 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.
- Parents / Carers will be kept informed.

### **Measures to prevent bullying may include:**

- the sharing of relevant information with SMSAs (lunchtime supervisors)/staff who will cover any children who needs special care in the playground
- exclusion of mobile phones in school time
- confidential boxes are made available so that children can put notes in signed or unsigned

### **The role of governors**

- The governing body supports all attempts to eliminate bullying from our school. The governing body does not allow bullying to take place in our school, and 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, and reviews the effectiveness of the school policy regularly. The governors require accurate records of all incidents of bullying to be kept 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 (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 everyone knows that bullying is wrong, and that it is unacceptable behaviour in this school. The Headteacher draws the attention to this fact at suitable moments. For example, if an incident occurs, the Headteacher may decide to use assembly as a forum in which to discuss with the children why this behaviour was wrong.
- The Headteacher ensures that all staff are sufficiently aware 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.

## **The role of teachers**

- Teachers in our school take all forms of bullying seriously, and intervene to prevent incidents from taking place. They keep their own records of all incidents that happen in their class and that they are aware of in the school.
- If teachers witness an act of bullying, they do all they can to support the child who is being bullied, and the bully.
- Records of bullying are kept including incidents of bullying that occur 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 inform school.
- If teachers become aware of any bullying taking place between members of a class, they deal with the issue immediately. Time is spent talking to the child who has been bullied and the bully: they explain why the action of the child was wrong, and they endeavour to help the child change their behaviour in future. If a child is repeatedly involved in bullying other children, they inform the Headteacher and the special needs co-ordinator is also informed. The child's parents are then invited 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.

## **The role of parents**

- 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 immediately.
- 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 policy is monitored on a day-to-day basis by the Headteacher, who reports to governors about the effectiveness of the policy on request.

This anti-bullying policy is the governors' responsibility and they review its effectiveness annually. They do this by examining the school's records, and by discussion with the Headteacher. Governors analyse information with regard to gender, age and ethnic background of all children involved in bullying incidents.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Chair of Governors

Reviewed May 2013

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Headteacher

To be reviewed by: May 2016