

Hendal Primary School



Hendal Primary School

Belong, Aspire, Achieve.

Anti Bullying Policy

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Lead Personnel: Headteacher

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What is bullying?

Bullying is behaviour which deliberately makes another person feel uncomfortable, distressed or threatened.

Bullying is repeated over time.

Bullying makes those being bullied feel powerless to defend themselves.

Why are we against bullying?

'Every Child Matters'because:

- everyone has the right to feel welcome, secure and happy
- we should treat everyone with consideration
- if bullying happens it will be dealt with quickly and effectively
- it is important to tell someone
- bullying of any kind is **unacceptable** at our school.



What types of bullying are there?

- Emotional (being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting, threatening behaviour)
- Verbal (name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing)
- Physical (pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence)
- Extortion (demanding money/goods with threats)
- Cyber (all areas of internet, email and internet chat room misuse)
- Mobile threats by text messaging and calls.
- Racist (racial taunts, graffiti, gestures)
- Sexual (unwanted physical contact, sexually abusive comments)

What are the signs and symptoms of bullying?

A person may indicate by signs or behaviours that they are being bullied. Everyone should be aware of these possible signs and should investigate if the person;

- Is frightened of walking to or from school or changes route
- Doesn't want to go on the school
- Begs to be driven to school
- Changes their usual routine
- Is unwilling to go to school
- Begins to truant
- Becomes withdrawn, anxious or lacking in confidence
- Becomes aggressive, abusive, disruptive or unreasonable
- Starts stammering
- Threatens or attempts to run away
- Cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- Feels ill in the morning
- Performance in school work begins to drop
- Comes home with clothes torn, property damaged or 'missing'
- Has dinner or other monies continually 'lost'
- Has unexplained cuts or bruises
- Bullying others
- Changes in eating habits
- Is frightened to say what is wrong
- Gives improbable excuses for their behaviour.

What causes Bullying?

People bully for different reasons.
The reasons could be:

- to feel powerful
- jealousy
- to feel good about themselves
- to be in control
- because they want something (attention, possession or friends)
- to look good in front of other people
- to feel popular
- because of peer pressure
- to be big/clever
- for fun
- because they are being bullied themselves
- because they see and pick on an easy target (small, won't tell anyone, lonely or different in some way)

How can we prevent Bullying?

At Hendal we foster a clear understanding that bullying, in any form, is not acceptable. This is done by:

- Having an effective anti-bullying policy and practice. We have a safe and happy environment, with good attitudes, behaviour, and relationships which has a positive impact on learning and achievement.
- Regular praise of positive and supportive behaviour by all staff.
- Work in school which develops empathy and emotional intelligence (SEAL).
- Any incidents treated seriously and dealt with immediately.

Why is it important to respond to bullying?

Bullying Hurts!

Everybody has the right to be treated with respect.

Everybody has the right to feel happy and safe.

No-one deserves to be a victim of bullying.

Bullies need to learn different ways of behaving.

Our school will respond promptly and effectively to reported incidents of bullying

Responses to Bullying

PATHWAYS OF HELP

Child is bullied

Step 1a

Self referral by child using a 'worry box' or written note

Step 1b

Child personally approaches:
Buddy
Class Teacher
Support staff or trusted member of the school community

Step 2

Child meets with class teacher
Parent informed
Headteacher informed
Discussion on the facts
Suggested ways forward
Short review time

If continues

Step 3

Discussion/Interview with all parties
Will use: suggested and agreed actions/strategies
Parents involved
Short term review

If continues

Step 4

Restorative justice
Mediation/counselling
Anger management training & self help
Peer Mentor/Buddy support
External Agencies – Connexions
Circle of friends

If continues

Step 5

Headteacher and Chair of Governors and inform/seek advice from LA Head of Inclusion services

Support Agencies

Anti-bullying Alliance - the alliance brings together over 60 organisations into one network with the aim of reducing bullying. Their website has a parent section with links to recommended organisations who can help with bullying issues

www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Kidscape

www.kidscape.org.uk

02077303300

Childline – advice and stories from children who have survived bullying
08000 1111

Bullying on line

www.bullying.co.uk

Parentline Plus – advice and links for parents www.parentlineplus.org.uk
08088002222

Parents Against Bullying

01928 576152

Useful sources of information

Cyberbullying.org - one of the first websites set up in this area, for young people, providing advice around preventing and taking action against cyberbullying. A Canadian based site www.cyberbullying.org

Chatdanger - a website that informs about the potential dangers online (including bullying), and advice on how to stay safe while chatting
www.chatdanger.com

Know IT All for Parents – a range of resources for primary and secondary schools by Childnet International. Has a sample family agreement
www.childnet-int.org/kia/parents

This policy has been developed and implemented in consultation with the whole school community including pupils, parents/carers, staff, governors and partner agencies.

Anti-bullying charter signed.

Pupils (via the School Council).....
Chair of Governors – T Carter
Staff Leader of Anti-bullying.....
Headteacher – K Ashton