

Introduction

At St. Peter's we work to address any issues of bullying .

- ◆ We are a listening, caring, telling school.
- ◆ All bullying is taken seriously & investigated thoroughly
- ◆ We care about the safety and welfare of all our children

Our immediate response is to stop the bullying and to ensure the well-being of those being bullied, those who may observe the behaviour and those who may be affected by it.

We recognise that bullying can be the result **of**, or result **in**, low self-esteem, poor academic achievement, isolation and depression. Bullying is never a good thing - it is damaging to both the victim and the bully.

What can be defined as bullying behaviour?

Bullying behaviour is usually persistent. It can involve the use of power in order to control or hurt others. It shows itself in different ways:

- ◆ Name calling, ridicule, humiliation
- ◆ Racist taunts, gestures
- ◆ Intimidation. teasing & tormenting
- ◆ Stealing or breaking someone's things.
- ◆ Pushing or hitting.
- ◆ Frightening someone into doing things they don't want to do.
- ◆ Unwanted physical contact or abusive comments of a sexual nature.

What should parents do if you think your child is being bullied?

- ◆ Stay calm & reassure - talk to your child to find out as much information as possible. Write down what the child has said to ensure an accurate report is given to the school. Be factual.
- ◆ Contact school - either the class teacher or head teacher. Make an appointment to see someone as soon as possible. Explain briefly - try to stay calm.
- ◆ Give the school time to investigate the allegation in full.
- ◆ Meet with the teacher to discuss the outcome and find out what preventative measures can be taken

Be reassured the school takes the incident as seriously as you do!

What will a teacher do if an incident of "bullying" is reported?

The teacher will

- ◆ Stay calm, take the incident seriously and act immediately on report of an incident.
- ◆ Investigate the incident fully to ascertain exactly what happened and whether the reported incident is one of bullying
 - i. Ask the victim about the events
 - ii. Ask the bully their account. Ask about what happened and why it was done?
 - iii. Where there is disagreement ask for independent witnesses.
- ◆ Discuss the issue with senior teachers and head teacher.

- ◆ Ask colleagues for any information which might be relevant / helpful.
- ◆ Reassure the victim that they will make every effort to stop the bullying and the importance of reporting any further incident to the teacher immediately.
- ◆ Observe the victim and the bully over a period of time.

How can teachers and parents help children who are the victims of bullying?

- ◆ Provide lots of reassurance and tell them that the bullying is not their fault.
- ◆ Tell the victim that you will make every effort to stop the bullying.
- ◆ Work on activities which will increase the child's confidence and self-esteem.
- ◆ Practise "assertive" role play activities e.g. how to say "no", how to walk away etc
- ◆ Encourage the child to consider
 1. Is there anything they can do to remedy the situation.
 2. Write down all the distressing things that have happened and then tear it up.
 3. Write down all the good things that have happened and the good things they can do.

How will the school work with the Bully?

We aim to work with the child to change the behaviour and find the reasons behind it.

- ◆ Involve parents at early stages.
- ◆ Explain to the bully the sanctions, which are to be imposed, and the reasons.
- ◆ Recognise that any damage caused is the responsibility of the bully and take steps to ensure any damage is put right.
- ◆ Recognise good behaviour shown by the bully
- ◆ Work within the school's curriculum to focus on these issues of social and personal development. e.g. Circle time PSHE, class discussions, assemblies, RE, Drama etc



What can parents do if your child is the bully?

- ◆ find out whether your child understands the actions were unacceptable & understands the impact of these actions on the other child.
- ◆ try to find out why the child has been bullying and what he/she thinks might stop the bullying in the future
- ◆ discuss with the child ways of putting right the damage which has been done. Carry through your decision.
- ◆ reassure the child that you still love them, give lots of praise for good behaviour
- ◆ show them how to play and join in with others
- ◆ ensure all adults in the family set a good example in their own behaviour
- ◆ work with the teachers to ensure all adults are working positively with the child to modify his /her behaviour

What can parents do if your child is the victim?

- ◆ give plenty of reassurance to the child that the incident is not their fault
- ◆ remind him/her to inform you and the teacher of any worries /concerns in the future
- ◆ build up his/her self-esteem and confidence by praising the things done well.
- ◆ give plenty of responsibility & opportunities to do well
- ◆ teach him /her how to be assertive (not aggressive) in certain situations i.e. how to use a simple response, how to walk away, how to diffuse a situation
- ◆ cooperate with school and monitor over a period of time

St.Peter's C.E.Primary School Farnworth

Our Anti-Bullying Policy



Guidelines for Parents teachers and children

Our school policy answers many questions relating to bullying in school. There may be many times in the school life where children fall out and argue. We encourage the children to solve problems, to make friends and work together. We are also very aware that incidents of bullying can (and do) take place, which are more complex and require closer pastoral input and support. It is true to say that whilst, as parents, we are all concerned about the effect of bullying on our own children, we are less likely to envisage our child as the bully. At St.Peter's we work with the both children to help and support them in their future work and play.

Support for parents & families working with young children



We hope this booklet goes some way in providing reassurance to parents of children involved in bullying.
If you would like to discuss any issues regarding your child's well-being, please contact any teacher in school .

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Signed:

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On Behalf of St. Peter's C.E. Primary School
Governors

Date:

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