



Anti bullying Policy 2015

(Revise 2016)

Aims of the Policy

The Aim of our Anti-bullying policy is to ensure that children learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment, without fear of being bullied.

We believe that all children have the right to feel safe, secure and happy, and to trust without fear in our school. At Crowcroft Park our staff, parents and children are committed to working together to promote a happy, peaceful atmosphere in which children feel safe and cared for whilst providing them with the skills for dealing with behaviour which makes them unhappy.

Statutory duty of schools

'Head teachers have a legal duty under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 to draw up procedures to prevent bullying among pupils and to bringing these procedures to the attention of staff, parents and pupils.'

Definition of Bullying

Bullying is defined as the **willful, conscious intention to hurt**, repeated over a period of time where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. Bullying can be by an individual or a group.

Remember:

S E V E R A L

T I M E S

O N

P U R P O S E

The four main types of bullying are:

- **Physical** (hitting, kicking, theft)
- **Verbal** (name calling, racist remarks, threats)
- **Indirect** (spreading rumours, excluding someone from social groups)
- **Cyber** bullying: This can take many forms. For example, sending threatening or abusive text messages or emails; making insulting comments about someone on a website, social networking site (e.g. Facebook) or blog; making or sharing derogatory videos of someone via mobile phone or email

It should be noted that the use of ICT to bully could be **against the law**. Abusive language or images, used to bully, harass or threaten another, whether spoken or written (through electronic means) may be libellous and illegal.

Possible Signs of Bullying

Children who are being bullied may show changes in behaviour, such as becoming shy and nervous, pretending to be ill, taking unusual absences, bedwetting, reluctance to leave a familiar adult. There may be evidence of changes in school work, lacking concentration or truanting from school. Children must always be encouraged to report bullying in school.

For more information on possible signs/reactions your child may have if they are being bullied please refer to our school website.

Implementation of the policy

SCHOOL

The following steps may be taken when dealing with incidents:

- If bullying is suspected or reported, the incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff who has been approached.
- A clear account will be on an incident sheet and given to the head teacher or member of the Senior Management Team.
- A member of the Senior Management Team will interview all concerned and the incident will be recorded on the schools database.
- The bullied child and parents would be given the opportunity to take part in the 'Shared Concern' approach. (See Appendix 1).
- Class teachers will be kept informed and if it persists the teacher will advise the head teacher.
- Parents/carers will be informed about an incident concerning their child within 48hrs by phone call or letter.
- Parents/carers will be kept updated throughout the process of resolving the issues.

CHILDREN

Children who have been bullied will be supported by:

- Offering an immediate opportunity to discuss the experience
- Reassuring the child
- Offering continuous support and the opportunity to introduce the 'Shared Concern Approach'
- Restoring self-esteem and confidence.

Children who have bullied will be helped by:

- Discussing what happened
- Discovering why they became involved
- Discussing how they need to change their behaviour
- Informing their parents/carers
- Involving the child in the 'Shared Concern Approach' (if considered appropriate)

The following disciplinary steps will be taken:

- Official warning that the bullying must stop
- The incident recorded on the schools database
- Loss of playtimes, lunchtimes etc.
- In school exclusion
- Fixed term exclusion
- Permanent exclusion

If a bullying incident directed at a child occurs using email or mobile phone technology either inside or outside of school time.

- Advise the child not to respond to the message
- Refer to relevant policies and apply appropriate sanctions
- Secure and preserve any evidence
- Inform the sender's email service provider
- Notify parents of the children involved
- Consider informing the police depending on the severity or repetitious nature of the offence.

If malicious or threatening comments are posted on an Internet site about a pupil or member of staff.

- Inform and request the comments be removed if the site is administered externally.
- Secure and preserve any evidence.
- Endeavour to trace the origin and inform police as appropriate.

What should our children do?

- Not allow someone to be deliberately left out of a group.
- Not smiling or laughing when someone is being bullied.
- Tell a member of staff what is happening.
- Encourage the bullied child to join in their activities in groups.
- Tell the bullying children to stop what they are doing.
- Show the bullying child that they disapprove of his or her action.

In the event of bullying we encourage children to:

Signed Chair of school council Date.....

Signed Headteacher Date.....