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Abbey Village Primary School works with children and families as part of its activities. These include: The high quality teaching of PSHE throughout school, teaching E-Safety termly, Circle Time to discuss on the rare occasions that incidents happen, Awareness Days, School linking, the explicit teaching of Protected Characteristics, teaching about British Values to promote tolerance and respect etc.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

• to prevent bullying from happening between children and young people who are a part of our organisation or take part in our activities

• to make sure bullying is stopped as soon as possible if it does happen and that those involved receive the support they need

• to provide information to all staff, volunteers, children and their families about what we should all do to prevent and deal with bullying

SCHOOL ANTI-BULLYING POLICY Statement on bullying At Abbey Village Primary School

Bullying and any other forms of intimidation will not be tolerated. Our school is a place where every person has the right to be themselves, to be included and to learn in a safe and happy environment. Everyone at our school is equal. It is our aim that all will treat others with kindness and respect. Everyone will be vigilant and will intervene promptly if there are any signs or reports of bullying. These expectations are sited within our school rules and mission statement.

Aims

• To promote values of respect and equality and to work to ensure that difference and diversity are celebrated across the whole school community.

• To enable our pupils to become responsible citizens and to prepare them for life in 21st Century Britain.

• To teach children about what bullying is and what different forms it takes.

• To ensure that all feel safe and free from bullying and intimidation.

• To build an ethos where children feel safe, free from threat and intimidation.

• To promote good relationships where all are treated equally and where learners care for each other.

• To act promptly and effectively at the first sign of bullying.

• To encourage learners and parents to report any attempted bullying.

• To protect and reassure any victims of bullying.

• To have effective sanctions to deter bullying and to have successful strategies to reform bullies.

• To maintain a happy school and online school community that is free from bullying.

• We are committed to improving our school’s approach to tackling bullying and regularly monitor, review (through CPOMS) and assess the impact of our preventative measures.

Definition

Bullying occurs when one person (or group) is deliberately and knowingly hurting another, mentally and / or physically, for fun or “just because they can”. Bullying is not usually a “one off” incident but happens on repeated occasions. The victim has their confidence so undermined that they allow this to continue and feel powerless to stop the torment.

At Abbey Village Primary School we regularly educate the children about acceptable behaviour and discuss that bullying is not:

• A child ‘falling out’ with another and having a disagreement;

• A child bumping into another in the playground;

• Playing boisterously or loudly;

• A ‘one off’ angry outburst. 2 Incidents like this will be dealt with in school and in line with our Behaviour Policy

• The STOP acronym can be applied to define bullying- Several Times On Purpose The nature of bullying can be: physical, attacking property, verbal, psychological or cyber.

Protected Characteristics

Bullying can be based on any of the following things: racism, religion or belief, culture or class, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, SEN or disability, appearance or health conditions, related to a home or other personal situation, related to another vulnerable group of people, or any other reason.

Our school educates children about individual differences and how these should be celebrated in a diverse world. No form of bullying will be tolerated and all incidents will be taken seriously.

Reporting bullying

Pupils who are being bullied are encouraged to not retaliate but to tell someone they trust about it such as a member of staff, a friend or family member. They are encouraged to report any bullying incidents in school. The Child Line number is displayed in school, on the noticeboard, in case a child would like to speak to someone in confidence. Reporting- roles and responsibilities. Staff All school staff have a duty to report bullying, to be vigilant to the signs of bullying and to play an active role in the school’s measures to prevent bullying.

If staff are aware of bullying, they should reassure the pupils involved and inform their class teacher.

Senior Staff

The SLT have the overall responsibility for ensuring that the policy is followed by all members of staff and that the school upholds its duty to promote the safety and well-being of all young people. Shelley Bennett and Rachel Hopkins are the safeguarding, welfare and antibullying leads. Parents and carers Parents and carers should look out for potential signs of bullying such as distress, lack of concentration, feigning illness or other unusual behaviour. Parents should encourage their child not to retaliate and support and encourage them to report the bullying. This can be reported through emailing or telephoning the school: bursar@abbeyvillage.lancs.sch.uk or head@abbeyvillage.lancs.sch.uk

Pupils

Pupils should not take part in any kind of bullying and should watch out for signs amongst their peers. They should not be bystanders to incidents of bullying, but should offer support to the victim and help them to tell a trusted adult.

Responding to bullying

• Staff will record the bullying on CPOMS and pass on to the antibullying/safeguarding lead

• The SLT will monitor CPOMS incidents and analyse and evaluate the results

. • The head teacher will summarise the information termly and report to the governing body.

• Staff will offer support to the target of the bullying in discussion with the child’s class teacher. An action plan will be written to ensure that the child feels safe and reassured that the bullying is being dealt with and that it is not their fault.

• Staff will proactively respond to the bully who may require support or intervention plans. These will be closely monitored

• Staff will inform parents or carers and where necessary involve them in any plan of action.

• The Safeguarding lead will be responsible for assessing whether any other authorities

( e.g. Safeguarding team, police or LA) need to be involved.

Bullying outside of school

The school is aware that bullying can take place beyond the school day; cyber bullying, for example, or on the journey to and from school. We ask that all staff, parents and carers are vigilant and report and respond according to their responsibilities as outlined in this policy.

Derogatory language

Derogatory or offensive language is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. All prejudice-based incidents are taken seriously and recorded and monitored in school. This ensures that all incidents are dealt with accordingly but also helps to prevent bullying as it enables targeted anti-bullying interventions.

Prejudice-based incidents

This is a one off based incident of unkind or hurtful behaviour that is motivated by a prejudice or negative attitudes, beliefs or views towards a protected characteristic or minority group. It can be targeted towards an individual or group and can have a significant impact on those targeted. All prejudice based incidents are recorded and taken seriously in school. It is the head teacher’s responsibility to monitor and report these incidents to the appropriate body.

Strategies to prevent and tackle bullying.

• We will use our behaviour policy effectively to promote good behaviour so that there is an ethos where all forms of bullying are unacceptable.

• All will be expected to be vigilant and to intervene immediately and effectively if any bullying or anti-social behaviour is observed or reported.

• Children will be encouraged to report bullying and when they do so they will be listened to and taken seriously. Staff will report to a member of the safeguarding, welfare and antibullying team

• Every allegation of bullying will be investigated and followed up.

• Any victim of bullying will be well-protected immediately and in the future.

* PSHCE curriculum, assemblies and circle time will be used to discuss bullying and derogatory language and to ensure that all are aware that bullying is never acceptable and that the victim must always report it to parents, staff or friends.
* Difference and diversity is celebrated in displays, resources, books and images.
* The school participates in and promotes the annual anti-bullying week (November), Black history month (October) and LGBT history month (October) This however is NOT limited solely to those times and is threaded throughout our curriculum.
* We will use the school’s discipline and rewards strategy to reinforce this antibullying policy.
* Children and their parents will be made aware of this policy.
* A child- friendly anti-bullying policy ensures all pupils understand and uphold the school’s anti-bullying policy.
* Playground buddies offer support to children in KS1 and involve KS2 children in teaching them how to play well and build friendships and relationships.
* The school council are continually involved in leading charity and community work which educates the whole school and promotes diversity and differences.
* The parents of all concerned will be informed and involved in any reported incident and will be expected to support this school policy.

Training

The head teacher is responsible for ensuring that all school staff, both teaching and non-teaching receive regular training on all aspects of the anti-bullying policy. Monitoring and review The head teacher is responsible for reporting to the Governing Board on how the policy is being enforced and upheld, via the termly report. The Governing Board are in turn responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of the policy via the termly report and by in-school monitoring such as learning walks and focus groups/pupil interviews.

Policy to be reviewed September 2023