

Rossmere Primary School

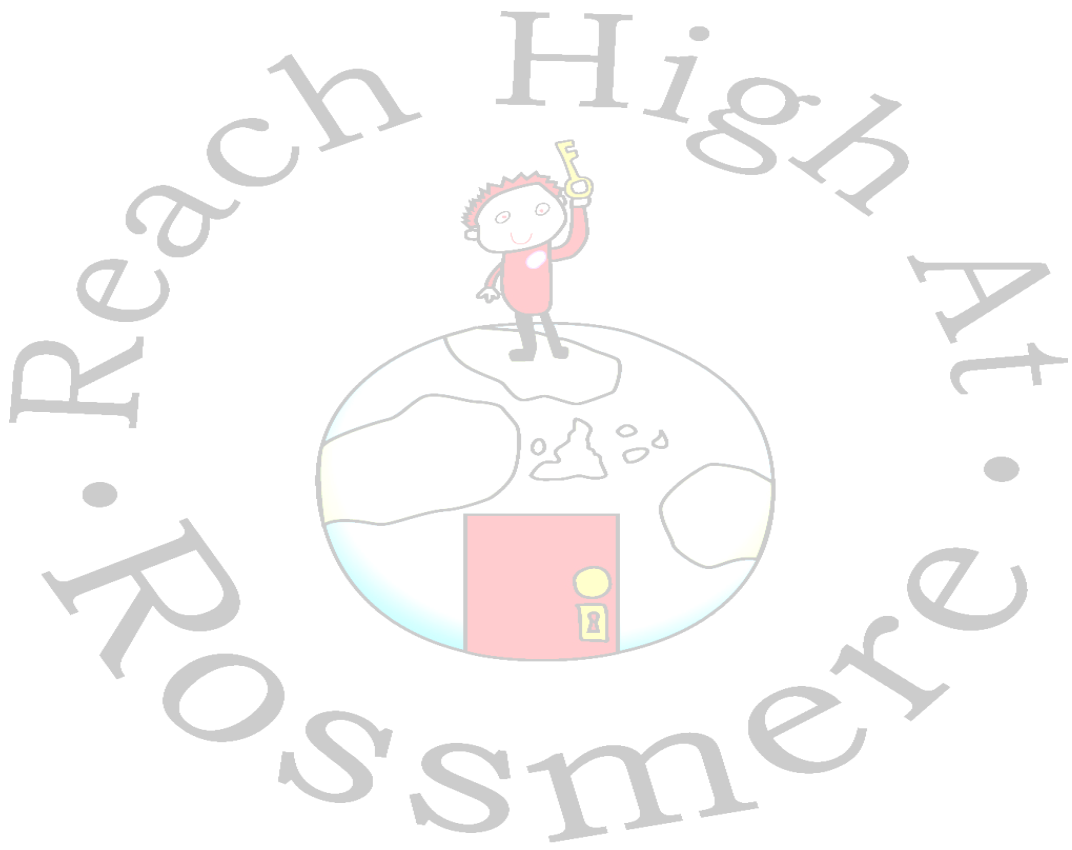


ANTI BULLYING POLICY

ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNING BODY

SPRING 2017

Policy Number 24



Anti-Bullying Policy Index

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Statement of Intent

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. If bullying does occur, all pupils should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a *TELLING* school. This means that *anyone* who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff.

Objectives of this Policy

- To stop all forms of bullying within Rossmere Primary School
- Pupils and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Bullying will not be tolerated
- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- All governors and teaching and non-teaching staff should know what the school policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported.
- All pupils and parents should know what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises.

Bullying is:

- *Repeated*
- *Intended to hurt someone either physically or emotionally*
- *Often aimed at certain groups, eg because of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation*

What Constitutes Bullying?

For e.g.

- Emotional - being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures/indirect behaviour that affects others negatively).
- Physical - pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any form of violence (retaliation in response to another incident)
- Name Calling
- Physical assault
- Making threats
- Name calling (someone thinks it's funny- unintentional)
- Cyber-bullying - bullying via mobile phone or online (eg email, social networks and instant messenger)
- Racist - racial taunts, graffiti, gestures.
- Sexual - unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments.
- Homophobic- because of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality.
- Verbal - name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing.
- Low level behaviour / immaturity (needs education – no filter)
- Cyber - All areas of internet, such as email & internet chat room misuse.
Mobile devices – threats by text messaging & calls. Misuse of associated technology, i.e. camera, video facilities (Skype, Oovoo – online apps etc.), Games (Xbox live, Play Station, etc.)

Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying?

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect. Pupils who are bullying need to be supported to learn different ways of behaving.

Rossmere Primary School has a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

How to Tell if Someone is Being Bullied

Signs and Symptoms

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that he or she is being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and that they should investigate if a child:

- is frightened of walking to or from school / begs to be driven to school
- doesn't want to go on the school / public bus
- changes their usual routine
- is unwilling to go to school (school phobic) / begins to truant
- becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence / starts stammering
- attempts or threatens suicide or runs away
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares / feels ill in the morning
- begins to do poorly in school work
- comes home with clothes torn or books damaged / has possessions which are damaged or " go missing"
- asks for money or starts stealing money (to pay bully)
- has dinner or other monies continually "lost" / comes home starving (money / lunch has been stolen)
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- is bullying other children or siblings
- stops eating
- is frightened to say what's wrong
- gives improbable excuses for any of the above
- is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone
- is nervous & jumpy when a cyber-message is received
- taking a lot of time off, getting to school late, trying to avoid being in situations like the toilets or changing rooms
- hears someone calling them names, not loudly, but so that they will overhear
- hears rumours being spread about them, in person or online?
- Is being left out of things when partners are chosen in class?
- Are they spending break and lunchtime on their own?
- Are people fixing up nice things to do out of school and leaving them out?
- Are they getting nasty phone texts and abuse on the internet or by instant messaging?
- Bed wetting

These signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated.

Reporting Bullying

What you should do to help someone being bullied

- Inform someone
 - I. Encourage your child to inform a staff member if they feel unsafe or unhappy at school when it happens

School Procedures

- School is made aware by either a child or parent/carer of an alleged incident
- If your child has informed you about bullies, please inform school as soon as possible
- All incidents will be recorded by staff in the School Incident Report and a copy given to the Headteacher and a copy kept in the class behaviour file.
- Staff will investigate the allegations and inform a member of the Senior Leadership team of the outcomes and any necessary follow up procedures will be agreed – outcome will also be recorded in the Class Behaviour Log.
- In confirmed or suspected cases parents of all children involved will be informed and asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem and solution.
- An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour (Refer to prevention section).

NB:- If the Headteacher feels it appropriate after professionals may be contacted e.g. Children Services, or Police

Outcomes

- The bully (bullies) will be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences will take place in line with the school Pupil Welfare and Behaviour Policy.
- If possible, the pupils will be reconciled.
- After the incident / incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

Prevention and Support After Bullying

We will use a variety of personalised methods for helping children to prevent bullying. As and when appropriate, these may include:

Prevention	Whole School	Bullied	Bully
• Support after bullying incident occurs		√	√
• Work with staff and outside agencies to identify all forms of prejudice-driven bullying	√		
• Actively provide systematic opportunities to develop pupils' social and emotional skills, including their resilience.	√		
• Consider all opportunities for addressing bullying including through the curriculum, through displays, through peer support and through the School Council.	√	√	√
• Train all staff to identify bullying and follow school policy and procedures on bullying.	√		
• Actively create "safe spaces" for vulnerable children and young people.		√	√
• Writing a set of school rules	√	√	√
• Signing a behaviour contract.	√	√	√
• Writing stories or poems or drawing pictures about bullying.	√	√	√
• Reading stories about bullying or having them read to a class or assembly.	√	√	√
• Making up role-plays	√	√	√
• Having discussions about bullying and why it matters to be concerned.	√	√	√
• Co-operative group work.		√	√
• Circle time discussing bullying issues.	√	√	√
• Circle of friends.	√	√	√
• Befriending.	√	√	√
• Support groups.		√	√
• Assemblies about preventing bullying.	√		
• School policy is to try not to exclude any pupil but consideration can be used in certain circumstances	√		
• Parental support in school – lunch times and break times			√
• Nutrition			√
• Discussions – supporting bully/bullied if appropriate		√	√

Involvement of Pupils / Students

We will:

- Regularly canvas children and young people's views on the extent and nature of bullying.
- Ensure pupils know how to express worries and anxieties about bullying.
- Ensure all pupils are aware of the range of sanctions which may be applied against those engaging in bullying.
- Involve students in anti-bullying campaigns in schools.
- Offer support to pupils who have been bullied.
- Work with pupils who have been bullying in order to address the problems they have.

We will use suitable methods for helping children to prevent bullying. As and when appropriate, these may include:

Links with Other School Policies, Practices and Organisations

This Policy links with a number of other school policies, practices and action plans including:

- *Policy for Pupil Welfare and Behaviour*
- *SMSC*
- *Confidentiality Policy*
- *Race Equality Cultural Diversity Policy*
- *Prevent Policy*
- *Online Safety Policy*

HELP ORGANISATIONS:

for further support, links and advice.

Organisation	Telephone Contact	Website Address
Advisory Centre for Education (ACE)	0808 800 5793	
Children's Legal Centre	0845 345 4345	
KIDSCAPE Parents Helpline (Mon-Fri, 10-4)	0845 1 205 204	https://www.kidscape.org.uk/
Parentline Plus	0808 800 2222	
Youth Access	020 8772 9900	
Childline	0800 1111	https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/
The Diana Award	020 7628 7499	http://diana-award.org.uk/
Bullying UK	0808 800 2222	http://www.bullying.co.uk/
Anti-Bullying Alliance	0800 1111	http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/

Review

As part of the two year rolling programme this policy will be reviewed in **Spring 2018**.

Reviewed by the Headteacher.