



**HOLY FAMILY RC PRIMARY SCHOOL
ROCHDALE**

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY



Mission Policy

Holy Family School exists to serve its parish and community by promoting excellence academic, aesthetic and spiritual learning.

Based on the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Roman Catholic Church, the school seeks to provide a happy, well ordered environment where children, staff, parents and visitors feel secure, loved and respected.

Holy Family Roman Catholic School encourages all its members:

Through **WORK**: to develop his or her full potential as part of the community and as a unique person made in the image and likeness of God.

Through **WORSHIP**: to learn to know and love God and to recognise and respond to the person of Christ in others.

Through **WITNESS**: to celebrate Gospel messages including justice and peace

Statement of Intent

Holy Family RC Primary School is 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.

What Is Bullying?

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim. As outlined in KCSIE, this is also a characteristic of 'child on child' abuse, formally recognised as 'peer on peer' abuse.

Bullying can be:

- Emotional being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures)
- Physical pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Racist racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Sexual unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
- Homophobic or
- Transphobic because of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality
- Verbal name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- Cyber All areas of internet ,such as email & internet chat room misuse
Mobile threats by text messaging & calls
Misuse of associated technology , i.e. camera & video facilities



Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying?

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. As Christ taught us, we are all perfect in God's eyes and everybody has the right to be treated with respect. Pupils who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving.

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

Objectives of this Policy

- 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.
- As a school we take bullying seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Bullying will not be tolerated.

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
- doesn't want to go on the school / public bus
- begs to be driven to school
- 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"
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- comes home starving (money / lunch has been stolen)
- becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- is bullying other children or siblings
- stops eating
- is frightened to say what's wrong

Holy Family RC Primary School, Rochdale.

Anti-bullying Policy

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- 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

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

Procedures

1. All incidents of bullying will be reported to the class teacher. Parents must always inform staff of suspected bullying and must not approach suspected perpetrators of bullying themselves.
2. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying will be investigated and the bullying dealt with immediately and in line with the discipline policy.
3. Persistent reports of bullying will be recorded by staff
4. In genuine cases of bullying parents will be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem
5. If necessary and proportionate, police may be consulted
6. The school will endeavour to change the bully/bullies behaviour

Outcomes

- 1) The bully (bullies) will be expected to genuinely apologise. This may take the form of a verbal or written apology to any parties involved.
- 2) Sanctions such as loss of playtime, removal from class, exclusion from before/after school activities or internal exclusions may be levied.
- 2) In serious cases, a fixed term or even permanent exclusion will be considered
- 3) Every attempt will be made for the pupils to be reconciled.
- 4) After the incident / incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

Prevention

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

- 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

This policy has been approved and adopted by staff and Governors



Signed (Chair of Governors) Date

Signed (Headteacher) Date