

At our school we want all pupils to learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied. Bullying is anti-social and we will not tolerate it. We will address it robustly so that all pupils benefit from all the opportunities available at our school.

Our express-yourself school : inspiring us to achieve and learn with confidence.

## Checklist What bullying is (and isn't)

- When someone says or does something unintentionally hurtful and they do it once, that's **RUDE**.
- When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they mean to do it, that's MEAN.
- When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they keep doing it even when you tell them to stop or show them that you're upset that's **BULLYING**.

Bullying can be...

- **PHYSICAL** Kicking, hitting, punching people on purpose or taking someone's belongings.
- VERBAL Name calling, mocking and taunting someone. Saying sexist/racist/homophobic remarks or swearing at someone.
- INDIRECT Spreading rumours/gossiping, writing graffiti or excluding someone from a social group and making him/her feel left out.
- CYBER BULLYING Sending nasty messages, photographs, texts or emails.

Parents must not tell children to fight back or say something 'clever' to the bullies. This might get them in trouble or hurt. It may back-fire and result in being bullied more, laughed at or reprimanded at school.

# ANTI-BULLYING

Information for Parents, Carers, Pupils and Teachers



## See something Say something Sort everything.

Everyone matters, so if you or someone you know is being bullied, tell someone you trust, immediately.

When is it	What can
bullying?	You do?
S everal	<b>S</b> tart
T imes	<b>T</b> elling
<b>O</b> n	<b>O</b> ther
P urpose	<b>P</b> eople

#### **Fascinating Facts** Why schools don't just get rid of the bullies...

Parents are often surprised when schools don't automatically exclude children that are bullying others. Why would a school want to work with their child's tormentor? Why not just get rid of the 'problem child'?

- Firstly if school excluded every child guilty of being rude, mean or a unkind, we might not have many children left! All children are likely to fall out with their peers at some point.
- There is no evidence that children are born 'bullies' or 'victims'- they change their roles according to who they are with, where they are and how they are feeling.
- If the school moved the 'bullying 'child to another school, other children would suffer. Isn't it better to STOP that child from bullying others altogether and change the behaviour for good?
- Finally, before excluding a child from our school we feel there are ways of changing their bullying behaviour, by helping him/her to understand and target feelings. We need to help him/her develop empathy towards others and to help him/her manage the problems and to understand the effect their behaviour has on others.

#### The School's Role:

- Our school has an anti-bullying policy which can be found on our school website.
- Pupils will be spoken to about the incident and steps taken to 'nip it in the bud.'
- Members of staff are trained to be alert to signs of bullying and will act promptly, sensitively and effectively.
- We provide additional support for the child being bullied (victim) and those who have bullied (perpetrator.) Guidance will be given from our pastoral support team or if necessary from other trained professionals.
- We aim to prevent bullying by promoting a positive school ethos and The St Lawrence Way which will be taught in PSHE and RSE lessons, embedded into the curriculum, assemblies and via other school activities.
- We will display posters with a firm anti-bullying message. The Childline telephone number is shared with the pupils.
- Incident forms will be filled out throughout the process, and parents will be informed.
  Mr. Alan Brannen the Head teacher leads on anti bullying.
  Our Pastoral Support team of Anna Forster and Zoe
  Robinson can provide guidance.
  E-mail: admin@st-lawrenceprimary.co.uk
  Telephone 01694 722682

Please contact the school and request an appointment.

### <u>The pupil's role:</u>

Pupils should give a clear account of the incident, stating facts as soon as possible to an adult they trust.

- Never feel afraid of reporting bullying. Ask a friend to come with you for support.
- Let a mentor know, mentors know what to do. They can help. Mentors will tell the adults.
- All adults in the school will help you and support you throughout the process.
- Ask the bully to STOP if you can use eye contact. Tell him/her to GO AWAY. Then tell someone immediately.
- IT IS NEVER YOUR FAULT.

#### **A Parent's Role:**

- Listen to your child and support by asking questions, without interrogating . Don't belittle what he/she are telling you- however minor it may seem to you, his/her feelings are very real for them.
- Try to not let your child see it is upsetting you, stay calm and be patient. Try not to jump in with advice or solve the problem. Find out all the facts first.
- Praise your child for telling you, reassure him/her that he/she have done the right thing and you will help.
- Make sure your child understands the difference between bullying and someone being mean or rude.