

Willow Bank Infant School Anti-Bullying Statement



Reviewed November 2020

Definition of Bullying:

Persistent behaviour, whether by one person or a group, **intended** or **perceived** to cause hurt, pain, suffering, humiliation or degradation to another person or group.

At Willow Bank Infant School, we have a behaviour policy for positive behaviour management and to ensure that children are safeguarded. Our anti-bullying approach is covered in this policy. **We believe that all children have a right to be educated in a safe and secure environment and to be protected from those who may wish to harm, degrade or abuse them.**

Prevention

Bullying behaviour is unacceptable in any form and all staff have a responsibility to help to create an environment in which this is upheld. In school, children may be more vulnerable at lunch or break-times, so this may involve the teacher and support assistant on duty or lunchtime controllers. It is therefore very important that information is fed back to the class teacher and/ or Headteacher after incidents have taken place. Responses may then be initiated which are outlined in our behaviour policy. The children are regularly informed of the school's expectations about the unacceptability of bullying and what to do if they experience or are aware of bullying by others. This may take place through assemblies or class ***circle time***.

Circle Time and other measures of support

The word 'bully' is very emotive and can be used as a general term for being on the receiving end of behaviour you do not like. Young children often find themselves in situations such as these and do not always realise their own involvement or the reasons behind an incident getting 'out of hand'. Circle Time is used as an instant forum for children to discuss in detail behaviour they do not like and to sort out problems and issues they may have. The vast majority of incidents are sorted out at this level. Any further difficulties may result in additional support being offered to all children involved in the form of SEAL support groups. Children may also be given 'buddies' or participate in a 20/20/20 lunchtime.

Parental Involvement

As part of the Home School Agreement parents are informed of any concerns or worries that the school has about their children. This includes concerns related to children being bullied or demonstrating bullying behaviour. We would also hope that if parents believe their children are the victims of bullying they would share their concerns with the school. This may initially involve discussions with the class teacher or if it were of a more serious nature the Headteacher would be involved immediately.

Monitoring

Any significant incident of bullying will be recorded and regular reports will be made to the Governing Body on any trends that may emerge.