



**SAND**  
ACADEMIES TRUST

**Battledown Centre for Children and Families**

## **Anti Bullying Policy**

Date of Policy:

November 2021

Review Date:

October 2022

Signed:

M Cooke

Date: 18/11/2021

Chair of Governors

Battledown School is committed to creating and sustaining a safe, positive and inclusive environment for all pupils, staff and parents/carers. We believe that all members of the School community have the right to be protected from bullying and abusive behaviour.

### **Definition of Bullying**

- Bullying is any sustained, targeted, deliberate action which causes pain, anguish, distress or upset. It may be:
- Physical (pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence)
- Emotional (being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting, threatening, gesturing)
- Verbal (name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing)
- Racist (racial taunts, graffiti, gestures)
- Sexual – unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
- Homophobic (taunts or name calling focusing on the issue of sexuality)
- Cyber bullying refers to all areas of internet abuse, such as email & internet chat room misuse, mobile threats by text messaging & calls or misuse of associated technology, i.e. camera & video facilities.

The most effective way of preventing bullying is to create effective environments in which:

- the contribution of all children and young people are valued
- all children and young people can feel secure and are able to contribute appropriately
- stereotypical views are always challenged, and children and young people learn to appreciate and view positively differences in others whether arising from race, culture, gender, sexuality, ability or disability
- children and young people learn to take responsibility for their actions and behaviours both in school and in the wider community
- all forms of bullying and harassment are challenged
- children and young people are supported to develop their social and emotional skill

Bullying of any sort impacts on our ability to provide an equality of opportunity and equality of experience. It is therefore everyone's responsibility to be aware of the impact of bullying and to work actively to ensure that it does not occur within our school.

### **Objectives of this policy**

- All Governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- All Governors, 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 occurs.
- Pupils and parents feel assured that the School takes bullying very seriously and that they will be supported if bullying is reported.
- All members of the School community know that bullying will not be tolerated.

We are aware that as a school we have a duty to be proactive in our actions to ensuring that bullying does not become an issue at Battledown school. In order to achieve this, any bullying type behaviours from pupils will be dealt with within the context of the school's structured Behaviour Management Policy. This will enable a consistent whole school approach to be taken in order to facilitate the effective management of all inappropriate behaviours, including those which may be bullying deemed bullying type behaviours.

### **Signs and Symptoms**

The children and young people at Battledown School have a wide-range of complex communication and cognitive needs and as such not all pupils will recognise bullying behaviour if they experience it. All adults should therefore be aware of the following signs and symptoms which may indicate that a child is being bullied:

- is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
- lacks concentration
- becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- feigns illness
- clings to adults
- begins to do poorly in school work
- has possessions which are damaged or " go missing"
- 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 text message is received

Whilst these signs and symptoms could also be indicative of other issues, bullying should be considered as a possible cause and should be investigated.

With regard to adult behaviour, all complaints, including those which may be deemed bullying type behaviours, would be dealt with through the school's

structured Complaints Procedure. This will ensure that all negative situations are dealt with in a consistent manner.

Where developmentally appropriate, pupils will be actively involved in exploring bullying and its impact through the PSHE curriculum. This will involve a variety of educational opportunities, such as discussion and role-play, in order to provide a relevant and purposeful context in which to explore the issue of bullying.

### **Procedures**

- All incidents to be recorded by staff using CPOMS
- The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying will be investigated and stopped quickly.
- In serious cases, parents to be informed and invited to a meeting to discuss the problem.
- If necessary and appropriate, the Police will be consulted.
- Appropriate interventions will be identified and implemented to support both the victim and the bully/bullies to move on in a positive way.
- Racist and homophobic incidents will be dealt with in line with current GCC Guidance.
- Where a bullying incident leads to a concern regarding safeguarding, the School Safeguarding policy and procedures will be followed.

### **Bullying of staff**

The Governing Body and Head teacher have a duty of care for all staff, and the bullying of school staff, whether by pupils, parents or other staff will not be tolerated. All incidents will be dealt with in a confidential manner, with appropriate action taken to support the member(s) of staff involved.

### **Help organisations:**

Childline: 0800 11 11

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

Parentline Plus: 0808 800 2222

Youth Access: 020 8772 9900

Bullying Online: [www.bullying.co.uk](http://www.bullying.co.uk)

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre: [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

Visit the Kidscape website: [www.kidscape.org.uk](http://www.kidscape.org.uk) for further support, links and advice