



## *Lealholm Primary School*

### ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

#### Rationale:

At Lealholm Primary school we believe that all pupils have a right to learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without the fear of being bullied. We promote good behaviour. It is made clear that bullying is a form of anti-social behaviour. It is wrong and will not be tolerated. We must ensure that all pupils feel safe a secure and that we provide a fully inclusive environment for all.

#### What is Bullying?

Bullying can be described as being a repeated deliberate act done to cause distress solely in order to give a feeling of power, status or other gratification to the bully.

Bullying can occur through several types of anti-social behaviour. It can be:

- a) Physical: A child can be physically punched, kicked, hit, spat at, etc.
- b) Verbal: This can take the form of name calling. It may be directed towards gender, ethnic origin, physical/social disability, personality, etc.
- c) Exclusion: A child can be bullied simply by being excluded from discussions/activities.
- d) Damage to Property of Theft: Pupils may have their property damaged or stolen. Physical threats may be used by the bully in order that the pupil hand over property to them.

#### What can children do if they are being bullied?

When incidents occur, teachers will discuss bullying and reinforce the following strategies:

- a) Remember that your silence is the bully's greatest weapon.
- b) Tell yourself that you do not deserve to be bullied and that it is wrong.
- c) Be proud of who you are. It is good to be individual.
- d) Try not to show that you are upset. It is hard, but a bully thrives on someone's fear.
- e) Stay with a group of friends/people. There is safety in numbers.
- f) Be assertive – shout "No". Walk confidently away. Go straight to a teacher or member of staff.

### What do you do if You Know Someone is Being Bullied?

- a) Take action! Watching and doing nothing looks as if you are on the side of the bully. It makes the victim feel more unhappy and on their own.
- b) If you feel you cannot get involved, tell an adult immediately. Teachers will deal with the bully without getting you into trouble.
- c) Do not be, or pretend to be, friends with a bully.

### Role of the School

- Foster in all our pupils self-esteem, self-respect and respect for others
- Demonstrate by example the high standards of personal and social behaviour we expect of our pupils
- Discuss bullying with both classes, so that every pupil learns about the damage it causes to both the child who is bullied and to the bully and the importance of telling a teacher about bullying if it happens
- Protect children from the risk of radicalisation
- Be alert to signs of distress and other possible indications of bullying
- Listen to children who have been bullied, take what they say seriously and act to support and protect them
- Report suspected cases of bullying, radicalisation or extremism to the head teacher
- Follow up any complaint by a parent about bullying, and report back promptly and fully on the action which has been taken
- Deal with observe instance of bullying promptly and effectively, in accordance with agreed procedures

### Role of Parents

Parents have an important part to play in our anti-bullying policy. We ask parents to:

- a) Look out for unusual behaviour in your children – for example, they may suddenly not wish to attend school, feel ill regularly.
- b) If you feel your child may be a victim of bullying behaviour, inform school immediately. Your complaint will be taken seriously and appropriate action will follow.
- c) If a child has bullied your child, please do not approach that child on the playground or involve an older child to deal with the bully. Please inform school immediately.
- d) It is important that you advise your child not to fight back. It can make matters worse!
- e) Tell your child that it is not their fault that they are being bullied.
- f) Reinforce the school's policy concerning bullying and make sure your child is not afraid to ask for help.
- g) If you know your child is involved in bullying, please discuss the issues with them and inform school. The matter will be dealt with appropriately.

### Strategies for Dealing with Bullying

The following is a list of actions available to staff depending on the perceived seriousness of the situation. The emphasis is always on a caring, listening approach as bullies are often victims too – that is why they bully.

If bullying is suspected we will:

- a) Talk to the suspected victim, and any witnesses
- b) Identify the bully and talk to them about what has happened, to discover why they became involved. Make it clear that bullying is not tolerated at Lealholm Primary School.
- c) If the bully owns up then sanctions will be followed as outlined in the Behaviour Policy.
- d) Incidents of bullying are recorded and placed in an envelope (marked 'Confidential') and put in the child's file.
- e) If the suspected bully does not own up, investigate further. If it is clear that they are lying, continue with the procedure.
- f) Continue monitoring the situation to ensure no repetition and ensure all staff are aware of the situation.

### Prevent Agenda

The school has due regard in particular to the duty to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism; to report known cases of female genital mutilation and to follow procedures when a child is missing from education (KCSiE, pgs 13-17)

In order to fulfil the Prevent duty, it is essential that staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and know what to do when they are identified. Protecting children from risk of radicalisation is seen as part of the school's wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children from other harms, whether these come from within the family or are the product of outside influences.

In order to build resilience to radicalisation, as a school we promote fundamental British Values and enable them to challenge extremist views through the curriculum we deliver

If radicalisation or extremist views are suspected, this must be recorded and this information passed onto Mrs Ward.

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