Blacon Education Village Anti-Bullying Policy





Delegate Function: Headteacher Approved by Governors: November 2020 Updated: October 2020 Review date: Autumn 2022

This policy/document was reviewed by:-

Signed	Date:
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Blacon Education Village have a collective viewpoint about what Bullying is and how we want to work together to stop bullying in our schools and our community. We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils / students and families, so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable in our schools. If bullying does occur all pupils / students 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 or designated adult and action will follow.

What Is Bullying?

Bullying is the use of aggression with intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

Bullying can be:

- Verbal name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours and teasing.
- 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.
- Φ Homophobic because of, or focusing on the issue of sexuality.
- Cyber all areas of internet, such as e-mail and internet chat room misuse, mobile threats by text messaging and calls, full book, my space, misuse of associated technology, i.e camera and video facilities.

Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying:

Bullying hurts. No-one deserves to be a victim of bullying; everybody has the right to be treated with respect. People who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving.

Schools have a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

Objectives of this Policy:

- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils, students 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, students and parents should know what the school policy is on bullying and what they should do if bulling 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 of Bullying:

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that he / 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 or public bus.
- Begs to be driven to school.
- Changes their usual routine.
- Is unwilling to go to school.
- 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 monies continually "lost".
- Has unexplained cuts and bruises.
- Comes home starving (money / lunch stolen).
- 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 and 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. Report bullying incidents to Senior Leadership Team.
- 2. In cases of serious bullying, the incidents will be recorded by staff using CPOMs with a designated section for Bullying. This is reported termly to the FGB.
- 3. In serious cases parents should be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem, involving Class teacher, Learning Mentor / Family Support Worker and Head teacher. The record of this meeting and actions to address is recorded on CPOMs.
- 4. If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted in line with the school's Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy
- 5. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly, in line with the schools behaviour policy.
- 6. An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour. Learning Mentor / Family Support Worker or if necessary, external agencies.
- 7. For all racist incidents these are reported on **CPOMs under the term 'discriminatory'** and the same format is followed as above.

Outcomes:

- 1. All parties will be brought together to work towards a satisfactory outcome for both sides.
- 2. In serious cases, suspension or even fixed term exclusion will be considered, dependent upon the seriousness of the incident.
- 3. If possible, the pupils will be reconciled through work with the Learning Mentor / Family Support Worker.
- 4. After the incident (s) have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place, through tracking the incident file.

Prevention:

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

• Writing a set of school rules as part of the school's behaviour policy.