

Christ Church C.E, Lark Hill and Lewis Street Primary Schools' Child Friendly Anti-Bullying Policy

Lewis Street, Christ Church and Lark Hill are caring, friendly and safe environments so everyone can learn in a relaxed and secure place. Bullying of any kind is not tolerated in our schools. If bullying does occur, we must be brave and speak up. We are a *telling* school. This means that *anyone* who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell an adult. All adults know how to help if something is reported.

Objectives of this Policy

- All pupils and parents know what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying happens.
- As a school we take bullying seriously. Pupils and parents trust that they will be supported when bullying is reported.

What Is Bullying?

Bullying is when someone has been repeatedly hurting or making fun of you on purpose. This often leaves the victim feeling miserable and having bad thoughts. Being a bystander (watcher) is also unacceptable.

Bullying can be:

- Verbal (using words) - name-calling, spreading rumours, teasing
- Emotional - being unkind, or leaving someone out
- Physical - pushing, kicking, hitting, punching
- Cyber/Online - using online sites or apps such as Whatsapp or Snapchat to be unkind or scare someone
- Racist - treating someone different or making negative comments about the colour of their skin, or where they are from
- Homophobic - treating someone differently because they are gay



What Are the Dangers of Online Bullying?

Online bullying can be more dangerous than face to face bullying. It can take place anywhere and anytime. Online bullying, just like all types of bullying, can be really harmful to the way someone sees themselves and their confidence. It can affect someone's mental health by causing upset and worry. Online bullying has resulted in tragic events before and we don't want this to happen. Many children feel that they can't talk to an adult because they feel embarrassed, but we must be brave. In school, our use of technology is monitored to protect us: any inappropriate or threatening words which are typed or searched will be highlighted and reported to an adult.

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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. We must be brave and speak up about bullying, even if the bully is a friend. In our school, you can tell any adult as they all have a responsibility to respond to issues of bullying.

Signs and Symptoms

A friend may show these signs or behaviours if they are being bullied:

- they cry a lot
- they bully other children or siblings
- they have mysterious cuts or bruises
- they are worried to come to school
- their behaviour is different to normal
- they feel ill in the morning during Chat and Play
- their behaviour changes e.g. becomes aggressive or disruptive



Consequences

1. The issues will be discussed with an adult and the bully/ bullies will be asked to apologise. Parents will be told.
2. In serious cases, the bully might receive an exclusion where they can't come to school.
3. After the bullying has been dealt with, it will be monitored to make sure it does not happen again.
4. All events of bullying are recorded on school records which are passed on to High School.

Prevention

We use lots methods for helping children to prevent bullying, such as:

- Signing a behaviour contract in class
- Reading stories and having discussions about bullying and why it matters in P4C/ PSHE lessons
- Annual anti-bullying week
- Posters displayed around school
- Place2Talk sessions
- Child friendly anti-bullying policy is shown in school

