

**THE FALCONS
PRE-PREPARATORY
SCHOOL FOR BOYS
INCLUDING THE EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE**



ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Updated: Sept 2011

Introduction

Bullying is action taken by one or more boys with the deliberate intention of hurting another boy, either physically or emotionally. This includes words or actions of a homophobic, cultural, racial or religious nature.

Aims and objectives

Bullying is wrong and damages individual boys. We therefore do all we can to prevent it, by developing a school ethos in which bullying is regarded as unacceptable. Boys are encouraged to play together across the age range. We aim, as a school, to produce a safe and secure environment where all can learn without anxiety.

This policy aims to produce a consistent school response to any bullying incidents that may occur. Staff are made aware of the potential for bullying to occur through discussions in staff and year group meetings. They are aware of the school's pastoral policies and anti-bullying policy which is reviewed annually via whole school discussion. They are also made aware of the need for good supervision practices and to be particularly vigilant in the areas of the school where bullying is most likely to occur as in the toilets and playground.

We aim to make all those connected with the school aware of our opposition to bullying, and we make clear each person's responsibilities with regard to the eradication of bullying in our school.

Cyber Bullying

Two thirds of all bullying is verbal, and increasingly this happens in un-moderated chat rooms or by instant messaging, or via text messages on mobile phones. Bullying can be subtle but most of the time, if your child is being bullied, they know who is doing it to them.

What you can do:

- get them to show you any messages they've received or to tell you immediately if anything new happens
- tell them never to respond to an internet bully in a chat room, and never respond to abusive text messages
- make sure they stick to moderated chat rooms
- tell them that bullying usually stops once they tell other people about it
- if bullying or abuse starts in a chat room, encourage your children to leave immediately and tell you - you can then contact the moderator or the site manager/editor
- tell them never to give out personal contact details online or put photographs of themselves up on websites

Homophobic Bullying

Unfortunately, a small minority of people can be bullied or victimised because of their sexuality. This can happen at school, college or at work.

If you are being bullied because of your sexuality, you should not accept it. Tell someone who can do something to stop it, like a teacher or a manager at work.

Special Educational needs

Bullying of people with a special educational need is equally possible but also unacceptable.

The role of the Head teacher

It is the responsibility of the Head teacher to implement the school anti-bullying strategy and to ensure that all staff (both teaching and non-teaching) are aware of the school policy and know how to deal with incidents of bullying.

The Head teacher ensures that all boys know that bullying is wrong, and that it is unacceptable behaviour in this school. The Head teacher draws the attention of boys to this fact at suitable moments. For example, if an incident occurs, the Head teacher may decide to use assembly as a forum in which to discuss with other boys why this behaviour was wrong, and why sanctions have been put in place.

The Head teacher sets the school climate of mutual support and praise for success, so making bullying less likely. We believe that when boys feel they are important and belong to a friendly and welcoming school, bullying is far less likely to be part of their behaviour.

The role of the teacher

Teachers in our school take all forms of bullying seriously, and intervene to prevent incidents from taking place. All incidents should be recorded on the Incident Report Form which should be placed in the Headmaster's tray and subsequently files in the Incident Folder which is kept in the school office.

If teachers witness an act of bullying, they do all they can to support the boy who is being bullied. As part of our PSHE curriculum particular focus will be given to issues regarding bullying. If a boy is being bullied, the Head teacher will inform the boy's parents.

If, as teachers, we become aware of any bullying taking place between members of a class, we deal with the issue immediately and the Head teacher is informed. This may involve counselling and support for the victim of the bullying, and support and sanctions for the boy who has carried out the bullying. We spend time talking to the boy who has been bullied: we explain why the action of the boy was wrong, and we endeavour to help the boy change their behaviour in future.

Teachers attempt to support all boys in their class and to establish a climate of trust and respect for all.

The role of the boys

Boys are encouraged to report to their teachers any behaviour towards them which is hurtful, upsetting and/or persistent. The teacher will then investigate the issue and take appropriate action. Issues relating to bullying and why it is unacceptable are discussed with the boys in Circle Time, covered in the PSHE curriculum and in assemblies and by having focus weeks.

The role of parents

Parents have access to this Anti-Bullying Policy through the Parents' Handbook and the website. Parents who are concerned that their son might be being bullied, or who suspect that their boy may be the perpetrator of bullying, should contact their boy's class teacher immediately.

Parents have a responsibility to support the school's anti-bullying policy and to actively encourage their boy to be a positive member of the school.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the behaviour/exclusions policy.

Monitoring and review

This policy is monitored on an annual basis.

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