



# The Merton Primary School

*To be the best we can be.*

## THE MERTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

### ANTI – BULLYING POLICY

The aim of this anti- bullying policy is to ensure that pupils learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied.

The Merton Primary School promotes very good positive relationships and experiences relatively low levels of bullying incidences. However if bullying is reported it is investigated and dealt with as effectively as possible. Bullying is not tolerated and can result in exclusion from school.

Bullying is defined as deliberately hurtful behaviour, repeated over a period of time, especially where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves.

For the children this is defined as:

#### **S T O P** **Several Times On Purpose**

The three main types of bullying are:

Physical ( hitting, kicking, )

Verbal ( Name calling, hurtful remarks)

Indirect ( excluding others, spreading rumours)

Pupils who are being bullied **and** those observing are encouraged to report bullying.

As a school we aim to be proactive in encouraging a 'will tell' climate. We refer to this in school as:

#### **S T O P** **Start Telling Other People**

All staff are alert to the signs of bullying and act promptly and firmly against it in accordance with school policy.

#### **Statutory Duty**

Headteachers have a legal duty under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 to draw up procedures to prevent bullying among pupils and to bring these procedures to the attention of staff, parents and pupils. All staff are alert to the signs of bullying and act promptly and firmly against in in accordance with school policy.

#### **The Merton Anti – Bullying Charter ( Appendix A)**

This charter is reviewed annually in consultation with children during National Anti-Bullying Week. The Charter is signed publically on behalf of all children and adults by the Chairperson of the School Council, the Headteacher and the Chair of Governors.

Policy Reviewed Aut 2019

Next Review due: Aut 2020

## **Implementation**

- If bullying is suspected or reported, the incident is dealt with immediately by the member of staff who has been approached.
- A clear account of the incident will be given to the headteacher or other senior staff and the incident will be recorded.
- The headteacher will investigate the incident and will advise parents if she feels it appropriate.
- Sanctions will be used as appropriate and staff remain vigilant for any repetition of the bullying behaviour.

Pupils who have been bullied will be supported by offering an immediate opportunity to talk through the experience with an appropriate member of staff. The purpose of the discussion will be:

- to reassure the pupil
- offer continuing support
- help restore self – esteem and confidence
- tell the pupil what has been done about the incident

Pupils who have bullied will be helped by talking through the experience with an appropriate member of staff. The focus will be:

- discussing what happened
- discovering why the pupil became involved
- establishing the wrong doing and the need to change
- informing parents or guardians to elicit their support.

The following sanctions can/may be taken:

- Official warnings from senior staff
- Loss of playtimes
- Restriction in play area
- Minor fixed term exclusion
- Major fixed term exclusion
- Permanent exclusion

Within the curriculum the school raises awareness of bullying through inclusion in Personal, Health and Social Education; Internet safety and the use of social media; regular circle time and school meetings and Anti-bullying week awareness..

It is our philosophy that promoting high self – esteem, good open communication, a broad and balanced curriculum and a positive ethos will keep our level of bullying behaviour minimal. It is however always our aim to reduce incidents to nil.

## **Monitoring, evaluation and review**

The school will review this policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Policy Reviewed Aut 2019  
Next Review due: Aut 2020



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## The Merton Primary School Anti- Bullying Charter: 2019/20

**We make a commitment to take a stand against bullying.**

**We all agree that.....**

- Bullying is when an individual or a group are unkind  
**Several Times On Purpose.**
- We want a school and community free of all kinds of bullying, including cyber bullying.
- We want bullying never to be acceptable: in school; online; offline or at home.
- We want everyone to feel able to report bullying, wherever it occurs.  
**Start Telling Other People**
- We want everyone to value difference.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Headteacher

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairperson of the School Council

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairperson of the Governing Body

**STOP BULLYING**