



OAKDALE INFANTS SCHOOL

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Oakdale Infant School Anti-Bullying Policy

*We expect everyone at Oakdale to:
Attend school and be punctual.
Work hard and try their best.
Play and act sensibly.
Treat everyone and everything with respect.*

We value all members of our community, encouraging all to treat each other with respect and consideration, co-operating thoughtfully to benefit everyone in the school. Emphasis is placed on establishing a happy, secure and orderly environment in which children can learn and develop as caring and responsible people.

All members of the school community should be supported to reach their full potential in a secure environment. Bullying of any sort prevents this being able to happen and prevents equality of opportunity.

The Anti -Bullying Policy has been written for all members of Oakdale Infants school community as an aid to consistency and fairness. It is everyone's responsibility to prevent bullying and this policy contains guidelines to support this ethos.

Definitions of Bullying

Bullying is deliberately hurtful behaviour that is repeated over a period of time, making it difficult for the targeted person to defend themselves. Bullying can take the form of name-calling, violence, threatened violence, isolation, ridicule or indirect action such as spreading unpleasant stories about someone.

Staff at Oakdale Infant School fully recognises their responsibilities in terms of equality issues in relation to gender, age, race, disability, religion or belief, sexual orientation and gender reassignment, including in relation to this policy. Oakdale Infant School is firmly committed to equality and diversity, and when carrying out our functions, we shall have due regard to the need: to eliminate unlawful discrimination and harassment; to promote equality of opportunity.

- At Oakdale Infants School staff work together to ensure that all pupils know the fundamental difference between bullying and simply "falling out"
- We reject bullying and harassment in any form.
- At the beginning of each school year during the autumn term we hold Anti-Bullying Week to promote the message 'working together to combat bullying'.
- The Anti -Bullying message is regularly re-inforced during assemblies, classroom circle times, R.E. schemes of work, and P.S.H.E units. There are frequent opportunities for discussions and role play dealing with issues of caring, sharing, friendship, fear, anger, bullying, jealousy, loving and forgiving.
- Each class has a chart reinforcing positive behaviour by highlighting children who have made a positive contribution to the class.

- Our Friday, achievement assembly presents an opportunity to acknowledge the efforts of pupils demonstrating qualities such as kindness, friendship etc.
- Whenever appropriate the curriculum is used to reinforce the ethos of the school and help pupils to develop strategies to combat bullying-type behaviour.
- Staff are vigilant for signs of bullying and always take reports of incidents seriously. The playground is well supervised and incidents are dealt with promptly.
- Pupils are made aware that being a 'bystander' watching a bullying incident is in itself a form of bullying. They are made aware of the importance of reporting any incidence of bullying to an adult in school. If another pupil tells them that they are being bullied or, if they see bullying taking place, it is their responsibility to report their information to a member of staff.
- Where bullying exists the victims must feel confident to activate the anti-bullying systems within the school to end the bullying.
- Victims of bullying need to feel secure in the knowledge that assertive behaviour, and even walking away can be effective ways of dealing with bullying.
- All incidents of bullying are closely monitored, recorded in the incident book and reported to the Head teacher.
- Any bullying involving racial abuse is reported to the Headteacher and recorded in the Racial Incident Book.
- Upon discovery of a suspected incident involving bullying, the issues will be discussed with the children involved. Each pupil will be given an opportunity to talk and the discussion should remain focused on finding a solution to the problem and stopping the bullying recurring.
- In the case of a child with a **Statement of Educational Needs**, there will be opportunities to address issues of behaviour at review meetings and an interim review organised if necessary.
- **Looked-After Children** will have a **Personal Education Plan** which features planning and strategies to address behaviour where appropriate.
- The perpetrator(s) of any bullying incident will also be reminded of the possible consequences of bullying and the sanctions for repeated incidents will be clearly explained to him/her. Staff are made aware and midday assistants informed of the sanctions imposed on the perpetrator(s) of any bullying incident. These sanctions may involve a pupil having to stay with an adult during playtime, being restricted to one playground, or to miss playtime altogether. The pupil may also miss their golden (free choosing) time in the classroom.

Parental Involvement

The parents/carers of any perpetrators of bullying and their victims will be informed of an incident and the action that has taken place. They will be asked to support strategies proposed to tackle the problem.

Parents are reminded regularly through letters and newsletters to inform their children that they must tell someone should they ever be bullied. Whilst there is little history of bullying at Oakdale Infants School, we believe that one case is one case too many and we believe it is essential to constantly review this policy. Where necessary we have and will call on outside agencies to support our action.

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the School's 'Safeguarding Children Child Protection Policy' and the school's Behaviour Policy and Positive Handling Policy

Oakdale Infant School Anti- Bullying Policy will be subject to annual review. A named Governor Mr Andrew Marshall or Mr Carl Edmonds will support the Head teacher Mrs Hillary Hunwicks, Safeguarding Co-ordinator Mrs Susan Borland and the SENCO, Mrs Emma Beck in monitoring and reviewing policy.

Date September 2010

Review date Sept 2011

Designation	Date	Name	Signature
Safeguarding Co-ordinator			
Headteacher Deputy Safeguarding Co-ordinator			
Safeguarding Governor			
Safeguarding Governor			
Chair of Governors			