



BEAUFORT HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

A SCHOOL POLICY

FOR

ANTI - BULLYING

**Considered and Approved by All Staff
March 24**

**Submitted to Governors for Consideration and Approval
March 24**

Bullying is a problem which all schools have to face. To deny its existence will only allow bullying to flourish as it thrives on secrecy and lack of awareness. We must take positive steps to deal with it.

What is bullying?

- "It is the wilful, conscious desire to hurt, threaten or frighten someone" Delwyn Tattum.
- It can be short term or continue over years.
- It can be physical, verbal, or just a look.
- It can be overt or subtle intimidation.

Examples:

1. Taking possessions of money.
2. Deliberately damaging school work or personal property.
3. Use of threat - " You're dead on the way home!".
4. Name calling and taunting.
5. Unprovoked physical violence.

We must be aware that not every manifestation of the above examples does actually constitute bullying. What must be considered when assessing if bullying is taking place is the nature, severity, frequency and motivation.

Consequences of bullying

Bullying has a detrimental effect on the whole school ethos. Not only those experiencing bullying but also those children seeing others acting as bullies can be distressed and intimidated.

Signs and symptoms of bullying

The following can be identified in parent/teacher discussion.

1. Unwillingness to attend school.
2. Pattern of headaches and stomach aches.
3. Becoming withdrawn and lacking confidence.
4. Sudden outbursts of temper.
5. Nightmares or bed wetting.
6. Fear of walking to and from school.

Our approach to bullying

Parental Partnership

Parental support to tackle the problem is essential. Our bullying policy is discussed at meetings for parents formal or informal and on a daily basis staff are always ready to talk about any problems children may be having. Parents are made aware that any incidence of bullying should be reported directly to the Headteacher or Deputy Head and that it will be taken seriously and action initiated immediately. Parents of children acting as bullies are involved at a very early stage. Children at some time in their school career could be both bullied and bully and we aim to have parental support and co-operation in both instances regardless of the role of their child.

Partnership with Children

Children themselves are regularly told that bullying is unacceptable school behaviour and must be reported to a staff member and we endeavour to ensure that children feel sufficiently confident in the pupil/staff relationship to be able to do this.

School Ethos

We aim to create a caring environment where children are encouraged to help and support each other. Our school assemblies frequently address the issues of sharing, caring, kindness and the rights of others.

Achievement assemblies reward not just academic success but also the types of behaviour and qualities we wish to encourage.

Punishments

1. Where bullying is taking place children are entered in the "behaviour book" and their parents are informed and invited into school to discuss the matter. (See Behaviour and Discipline policy)
2. If bullying is taking places during the lunch hour or play times, children may forfeit the privilege of staying for school lunch or spend much of this time under direct supervision.
3. If a child is acting as a bully to and from school parents may be asked to ensure that the child is brought to and collected from school by an adult.
4. Bullies are always made to apologise.

Helping the bully

Research has shown that bullies can have their own problems and are more likely to:-

1. Lack sensitivity to other people
2. Be hyperactive or disruptive
3. Have learning problems.
4. Have problems at home.

We would also therefore consider contacting Psychological service for help and advice where we feel this to be applicable.

Signed: P.T. Brookman : _____
HEADTEACHER

Signed : J.Hillier : _____
CHAIR OF GOVERNORS