



ANTI BULLYING POLICY

Mission Statement Extract:

“It is the Mission of St Joseph’s School to provide an education in which all relationships are centred on Gospel values. The school will endeavour to give all persons within its community dignity, value and respect, and seeks to support individuals in their development of self esteem and interpersonal relationships”.

School Aims:

To provide pastoral care to assist with the moral, social and emotional well being of the child.

To value each individual and treat everyone with respect.

Policy Rationale:

Children have a right to be protected from bullying and a right to feel secure. To this end the school has adopted strategies and procedures to prevent bullying within the school. Pupils should behave well towards each other so that they can fulfil their potential and allow others to fulfil theirs as children of God.

Policy Aims:

1. To provide a secure and welcoming environment
2. To promote the right of the individual to be treated fairly, equally and with respect
3. To work towards the prevention of bullying in school
4. To establish clear procedures for dealing with bullying, being mindful of the needs of both victim and the bully

Bullying Definitions:

Bullying is “deliberately hurtful behaviour, repeated often over a period of time. Those being bullied find it difficult to defend themselves”. (see Appendix 2 for definition to use with pupils)

Bullying can take many forms but the three main types are:

Physical – hitting, kicking, taking belongings

Verbal – name calling, insulting, racist remarks

Indirect – spreading rumours about someone, or excluding someone from social groups

Strategies to deal with bullying

1. The school will promote values which reject bullying
2. Bullying issues will be included in curriculum planning and taught to all children
3. Pupils who are responsible for bullying will be dealt with following the procedures detailed in “ strategies for offenders” (Appendix 1) and also as detailed in the school’s Behaviour Policy
4. Posters supporting and advising victims will be displayed in classrooms and around school. (Appendix 3)
5. The victims of bullying will be supported and will be informed that action has been taken. Advice sheets will be given to victims (Appendix 4)
6. Bullies will be guided and helped to stop bullying. Advice sheets will be given (Appendix 5)
7. Information for parents about the schools Anti Bullying Policy will be included in the School prospectus and will be included periodically in the School Newsletter
8. An annual “Anti Bullying Week” will be held for the children to focus on the main issues.

St Josephs Catholic Primary School

Appendix 1

Bullying – Strategies for Offenders

1. Teachers, Support Assistants, Lunchtime Supervisors to monitor daily behaviour. Each incident of bullying to be recorded and dated
2. The class teacher will fill in an Incident reporting form. The class teacher will inform parent/guardian and discuss the nature of the offences with them

If Bullying continues

3. After 3 recorded incidents, the class teacher will report to Teacher-in –Charge of the Department who will fill in the Schools Bullying form and arrange a meeting with the child's parents issuing them with a verbal warning
4. A further incident would lead to a written warning to parents from the Deputy head
5. Any further incident would lead to an interview with the Headteacher and a portable exclusion from school for a fixed term period. If incidents of bullying are occurring during the lunchtime period, the child may be excluded from school for the lunch period only.

St Josephs Catholic Primary School

Appendix 2

Bullying definition for Pupils

When working with pupils this definition could be used:

Bullying happens when:

“A pupil is being picked on, when another pupil or group of pupils say nasty things to him or her. It is also bullying when a pupil is hit, kicked, threatened, locked inside a room, sent nasty notes, when no one ever talks to them and things like this. These things can happen frequently and it is difficult for the pupil being bullied to defend himself. It is also bullying when a pupil is teased repeatedly in a nasty way”.

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Bullying Don't Suffer In Silence

INFORMATION FOR PUPILS

When you are being bullied:

- Be firm and clear – look them in the eye and tell them to stop
- Get away from the situation as quickly as possible
- Tell an adult what has happened straight away

After you have been bullied:

- Tell a teacher or another adult in your school
- Tell your family
- If you are scared to tell a teacher or an adult on your own, ask a friend to go with you
- Keep on speaking up until someone listens
- Don't blame yourself for what has happened

When you are talking about bullying with an adult, be clear about:

- What has happened to you
- How often it has happened
- Who was involved
- Who saw what was happening
- Where it happened
- What you have done about it already

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Appendix 4

"What Can I Do If I Am Being Bullied?"

At St Joseph's we have an Anti-Bullying Policy so that everyone can feel safe at school.

We want to help you and we want to stop the Bullying.

If you are being bullied here are some things you can do:

Tell a friend what is happening. Ask them to help you. It is harder for a bully to pick on you if you have a friend with you.

Try to ignore the bullying or say "No" really firmly, then turn and walk away. Remember it is hard for a bully to carry on if you won't stand still and listen.

Try not to show that you are upset or angry. Bullies like to see you upset. If you are calm they might get bored and leave you alone.

Don't fight back, if you can help it. You might make the situation worse, get hurt or blamed for starting trouble.

Make a joke of what the bully says. The bully might decide you are too clever to pick on.

Try to avoid being on your own where the bully might pick on you. Bullies tend to pick on people when they are on their own or in quiet places.

Tell your teacher or the teacher on playground duty or a lunchtime supervisor that you need their help. No one can help unless they know. Don't suffer in silence.

Tell your parents you need their help.