



ST BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Bullying Prevention Strategy

November 2019

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We acknowledge that bullying, especially if left unaddressed, can have a devastating effect on individuals. It can be a barrier to their learning and have serious consequences for their mental health. Bullying which takes place at school does not only affect an individual during childhood but can have a lasting effect on their lives well into adulthood.

We are committed to:

- Effectively preventing and tackling bullying.
- Creating safe, disciplined environments where pupils are able to learn and fulfil their potential.

Definition

There is no legal definition of bullying however there are three agreed defining features of bullying:

- the victim is targeted by an individual or group on a regular basis(it is repeated)
- there is intention to harm or humiliate physically or emotionally
- there is a power imbalance, the victim is fearful of those targeting him or her

When all of the above are happening, it is highly likely that this is a bullying situation.

Ethos And Values

At St Benedict's Catholic Primary School:

- We believe bullying is **unacceptable**.
- We believe all adults in school have a vital role as role models. They must demonstrate a commitment that bullying and the abuse of power are not acceptable.
- We believe good behaviour management and a positive learning environment will help reduce the incidence of bullying (please see the school's behavior policy).
- We understand that particular pupils may be more vulnerable to experiencing bullying i.e. Looked after Children, Traveller Children, Children with a Disability, Children with SEND, bullying motivated by racism or homophobia.

What we will do:

- We will continue to create an ethos in which bullying is not acceptable.
- We will listen to parents and pupils when they raise concerns about bullying.
- We will raise awareness of, and define bullying.
- We will support children and teach them how to deal with conflict.
- We will develop a consistent response to any bullying incidents that may occur.
- We will provide support for all members of the school community who may be involved in a bullying situation.
- We will give children opportunities to raise awareness of incidents of bullying.



Strategies for the Prevention of Bullying

We will promote excellent behaviour to prevent and reduce bullying through:

- The curriculum
- Co-operative group-work
- P4C
- Circle Time
- Circle of Friends
- Playground buddies
- Mediation by adults
- Mediation by peers
- Whole school activities e.g. assemblies
- Analysis of data from whole school surveys / focus groups
- Use of outside agencies e.g. Educational Psychology Service, school nurses, voluntary organisations, the Police and Emotional Healthy Schools

We are committed to providing an environment in which bullying does not take place – see our behavior management policy.

In the rare instances of a report of bullying we will follow the 'Bullying Incident Process' (see appendix 1).

Where it is assessed NOT to be an incident of bullying, plans may still be put in place where appropriate, to ensure all parties feel supported in resolving conflict.

How will we know if our strategy is working?

- Children will be willing to report incidents of bullying
- Attendance will improve
- In surveys, pupils will say that school deals with issues effectively

This document should be read in conjunction with the Behaviour Policy, Cheshire East's Bullying Prevention Strategy and the Safeguarding Policy.

This Bullying Prevention Strategy will be reviewed annually.