



**KIDGATE
ACADEMY**

Anti-Bullying Policy

Date reviewed:	January 2025	
Approved by:	LGB	January 2025
Next review due by:	January 2027	

For Office Use Only:

Policy Version: 1.0

To make changes to this policy, please
email admin@lincolnshiregateway.co.uk.



Lincolnshire Gateway
Academies Trust

The act of bullying, either in the Academy or out of the Academy, will not be tolerated. It is the responsibility of all (parents, staff - including non-teaching, and pupils) to report a bullying incident to any member of the teaching staff.

We believe that each pupil has the right to enjoy their learning and social time at the Academy and that this should be free from intimidation of any kind.

Kidgate Academy defines bullying as the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. Therefore, any repeated or habitual unkind action or comment, including via the use of electronic media, which is intended to hurt an individual will be called bullying. It is important that it must not be confused with childhood squabbles and arguments where individuals fall out with one another.

It is important that all bullying incidents are reported; pupils should be encouraged to tell of any bullying that takes place.

1. Bullying can be:

- Emotional - humiliating someone, being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting, spreading rumours, whether true or not.
- Physical - pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence.
- Driven by a prejudice - this may be homophobia, racism or victimising those who have special needs or disabilities.
- Cyber Bullying - any form of bullying using a mobile phone or the internet, chat room, social networking sites, instant messaging or email.

An additional record will be kept for Equality Related Incidents regarding Disability, Race, Age, Religion and belief, Gender reassignment, Sex (Gender) and Sexual Orientation.

Bullying will be dealt with seriously. SLT and the Pastoral Care Lead are very experienced in dealing with bullying incidents and will advise/support any member of staff who has to deal with any such incident.

When a case of bullying is reported, either verbal, physical or via electronic devices, staff must react to the situation as soon as possible. It is also important that staff are alerted to signs of bullying within their classes.

There are several courses of action available, depending on the nature and severity of bullying. They include:

- Interview with the bully
- Interview with the victim
- Interview witnesses

If the bullying is serious, then

- Parents/carers of both the victim and the bully should be contacted
- All incidents should be logged
- Appropriate staff alerted so that more acute observation can take place.

The Academy will make sure that whatever the outcome of investigations all parties will be left in no doubt as to the effects of bullying and the Academy's Policy - that is:

- Parents/carers of both bullies and victims will need to be informed, where appropriate, of the outcome of the investigations and of any immediate sanctions or likely

sanctions should there be a recurrence.

- Victims will be reassured and are instructed to inform staff of any further occurrence.
- A log of all reported bullying should be kept. In the case of racial harassment or equality related incidents, an additional incident form must be completed.

Bullying can be deterred by:

- Allowing and encouraging pupils to have clear channels of communication with staff.
- Providing a place where a pupil can talk in confidence.
- Maintaining even closer links with home and the Academy to improve lines of communication.
- Regular reviewing of supervision duties at break and lunch.
- Dealing quickly and firmly with incidents of bullying. In extreme cases this may include suspension of the bully (or permanent exclusion).
- Supporting staff in the development of their abilities to handle children in emotionally tense situations.
- Encouraging pupils to take responsibility for themselves and others, by observing the Academy's expectations, the Anti-Bullying Policy, and Behaviour Policy.
- Informing pupils about the appropriate use of electronic devices and media.

As a Parent/Carer

- Look for unusual behaviour in your children. For example, they may suddenly not wish to attend school, feel ill regularly, or not complete work to their normal standard.
- Always take an active role in your child's education. Enquire how their day has gone, who they have spent their time with, how lunchtime was spent etc.
- If you feel your child may be a victim of bullying behaviour, inform the Academy **immediately**. Your complaint will be taken seriously and appropriate action will follow.
- Make sure your child knows they can ask for help.

2. Bullying outside school premises

Head teachers have a specific statutory power to discipline pupils for poor behaviour outside of school premises.

Section 89 (5) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 gives Head teachers the power to regulate pupils conduct when they are not on school premises and are not under the lawful control or charge of a member of school staff. This can relate to any bullying incidents occurring anywhere off the school premises, such as a school or public transport, outside the local shops, in a town or village centre.

The Head teacher will also consider whether it is appropriate to notify the police. If the misbehaviour could be criminal or poses a serious threat to a member of the public, the police will always be informed.

BULLYING is a serious offence and will **NOT** be tolerated under any circumstances at our Academy.

3. Generative artificial intelligence (AI)

4.

Artificial intelligence (AI) tools are now widespread and easy to access. Staff, pupils and parents/carers may be familiar with generative chatbots such as ChatGPT.

Kidgate Academy recognises that AI has many uses to help pupils learn, but may also have the potential to be used to bully others. For example, in the form of 'deepfakes', where AI is used to create images, audio or video hoaxes that look real.

Kidgate Academy will treat any use of AI to bully pupils in line with our **anti-bullying and behaviour policies**.

5. Monitoring and review

The Academy will review the policy every two years and assess its implementation and effectiveness.

6. Links with other policies

- Behaviour policy
- Equality Objectives Statement.