

# UNITED SCHOOLS TRUST

## Kingsteignton School



### ANTI BULLYING POLICY

The United Schools Trust and Kingsteignton School respect the need that children have the right to be safe and happy.

#### Statement of Intent

##### The individual

- Respect every child's needs for, and rights to, a play environment where safety, security, praise, recognition, and opportunity for taking responsibility are available.
- Respect for every individual's feelings and views.
- Recognise that everyone is important and that our differences make each of us special.
- Show appreciation of others, by acknowledging individual qualities, contributions and progress.
- Ensure safety by having anti-bullying rules and practices, developed with the participation of children and young people, carefully explained and displayed for all to see.

At Kingsteignton School we are committed to providing a warm, caring and safe environment for all our children so that they can learn and play in a relaxed and secure environment. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable and will not be tolerated in our school.

We take all incidents of bullying seriously. Bullying hurts. No-one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect and pupils who are bullying others need to learn different ways of behaving.

At Kingsteignton School, we acknowledge that bullying does happen from time to time, however when bullying does occur, everyone should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively in accordance with our anti-bullying policy.

We are a **TELLING** school (**STOP**..... Start Telling Other People!). This means that anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff.

#### Aims and Objectives of this Policy

The aim of this policy is to try and prevent and deal with any behaviour deemed to be bullying. The implementation of this policy will create an ethos where bullying is regarded as unacceptable so that a safe and secure environment is created for everyone to learn and work in. All members of the school have a responsibility to recognise bullying when it occurs and take appropriate action in accordance with the school policy.

#### What is Bullying?

The school has adopted the following collaborative definition of bullying which is our shared understanding of what bullying is:

Bullying is any deliberate, hurtful, upsetting, frightening or threatening behaviour by an individual or a group towards other people. It is repeated over a period of time and it is very difficult for the victims to defend themselves (remember **STOP** - it happens Several Times On Purpose). Bullying is mean and results in worry, fear, pain and distress to the victims.

#### Bullying can be:

- Emotional - being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures), ridicule, humiliation.
- Verbal - name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, threats, teasing, making rude remarks, making fun of someone.
- Physical - pushing, kicking hitting, pinching, throwing stones, biting, spitting, punching or any other forms of violence, taking or hiding someone's things.
- Racist - racial taunts, graffiti, gestures, making fun of culture and religion.
- Sexual - unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive or sexist comments
- Homophobic - because of/or focusing on the issue of sexuality
- Online/cyber - setting up 'hate websites', sending offensive text messages, emails and abusing the victims via their mobile phones.
- Any unfavourable or negative comments, gestures or actions made to someone relating to their disability or special education needs.

### **Bullying is not:**

It is important to understand that bullying is not the odd occasion of falling out with friends, name calling, arguments or when the occasional trick or joke is played on someone. It is bullying if it is done Several Times On Purpose (**STOP**). Children sometimes fall out or say things because they are upset. When occasional problems of this kind arise it is not classed as bullying.

### **Where does bullying happen?**

It can happen anywhere - in the classroom, in the corridor, in the toilets, in the dining room, in the playground. Bullying may also happen on the way to and from school.

At Kingsteignton School we are concerned with our children's conduct and welfare outside as well as inside school and we will do what we can to address any bullying issues that occur off the school premises. The following steps may be taken:

- Talk to the local Community Police Officer (PCS) about problems on the street
- Talk to Heads at other schools whose children may be involved in bullying off the premises
- Discuss coping strategies with parents
- Talk to the children about how to handle or avoid bullying outside the school premises.

### **What can you do if you are being bullied?**

Wherever you are in school, you have the right to feel safe. Nobody has the right to make you feel unhappy. If someone is bullying you, it is important to remember that it is not your fault and there are people who can help you. Always tell an adult, use **STOP**- Start Telling Other People!

### **Procedures for reporting and responding to bullying incidents**

All staff will respond calmly and consistently to all allegations and incidents of bullying at Kingsteignton School. They will be taken seriously by all staff and dealt with impartially and promptly. All those involved will have the opportunity to be heard. Staff will protect and support all children involved whilst allegations and incidents are investigated and resolved.

Bullying incidents will be dealt with in line with the school's behaviour policy. Support may be given to both victim and perpetrator through the school counsellor/staff support.

### **Monitoring and evaluation of the policy**

Bullying incidents will be recorded within the behaviour log book and reported (anonymised) to trustees at each full meeting.

To ensure this policy is effective, it will be regularly monitored and evaluated.

### **Sources of further information and support**

There is a vast amount of information and guidance available about bullying that can provide a wide range of support and help. The following list is just a small selection of the support available that teachers, parents and children have found useful.

Name of organisation	Telephone number	Website
Act Against Bullying	0845 230 2560	<a href="http://www.actagainstbullying.com">www.actagainstbullying.com</a>
Advisory Centre for Education (ACE)	0207 704 3370	<a href="http://www.ace-ed.org.uk">www.ace-ed.org.uk</a>
Anti-bully	not available	<a href="http://www.antibully.org.uk">www.antibully.org.uk</a>
Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA)	0207 843 1901	<a href="http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk">www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk</a>
Anti-bullying Network	0131 651 6103	<a href="http://www.antibullying.net">www.antibullying.net</a>
Beatbullying	0845 338 5060	<a href="http://www.beatbullying.org.uk">www.beatbullying.org.uk</a>
Bully Free Zone	01204 454 958	<a href="http://www.bullyfreezone.co.uk">www.bullyfreezone.co.uk</a>
Bullying Online	020 7378 1446	<a href="http://www.bullying.co.uk">www.bullying.co.uk</a>
BBC	not available	<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk">www.bbc.co.uk</a>
Childline	0800 1111 (helpline for children)	<a href="http://www.childline.org.uk">www.childline.org.uk</a>
Kidscape	020 7730 3300 (general enquiry number)	<a href="http://www.kidscape.org.uk">www.kidscape.org.uk</a>
	08451 205 204 (helpline for adults only)	<a href="http://www.beyondbullying.com">www.beyondbullying.com</a>
NSPCC	0207 825 2500	<a href="http://www.nspcc.org.uk">www.nspcc.org.uk</a>
Parentline Plus	0808 800 2222	<a href="http://www.parentlineplus.org.uk">www.parentlineplus.org.uk</a>
The Children's Legal Centre	0800 783 2187	<a href="http://www.childrenslegalcentre.com">www.childrenslegalcentre.com</a>
The Office of the Children's Commissioner	0844 800 9113	<a href="http://www.childrenscommissioner.org.uk">www.childrenscommissioner.org.uk</a>
UK Government Website	not available	<a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk">www.direct.gov.uk</a>

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