



**MOOR PARK
PRIMARY SCHOOL
AND NURSERY**

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

March 2024

'Moor Park Primary is a Happy, Caring School Where Everyone Matters'

Policy	Anti-bullying policy
Blackpool Council model policy	None available <i>Blackpool procedures and guidance followed</i>
Reviewed by	Helen Jefferson
Date	March 2024
Approval level	Headteacher
Adopted	11 March 2024
Next review due	March 2025

Moor Park Primary School Anti-bullying Policy

Moor Park Primary School promotes values which reject bullying behaviour and promote co-operative behaviour. Tackling bullying matters.

Statement of Intent

Moor Park Primary School is committed to providing a supportive, caring and safe environment in which all children are free from the fear of being bullied. As a school we take bullying and its impact seriously. Bullying of any form is not tolerated in our school, whether carried out by a child or an adult.

Staff, children and parents or carers will be made aware of the school's position on bullying. Bullying behaviour is unacceptable in any form. The school has high expectations of behaviour and we consistently challenge any behaviour that falls below this. Anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell a member of staff.

Any child who is a victim of bullying will be dealt with in a sympathetic manner. If bullying is suspected or reported, the incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff informed, and then discussed with the Head of School or member of the Leadership Team.

A clear account of the incident will be recorded using the Alleged Bullying Form.

All relevant staff will be informed so that close monitoring of the victim and bully can begin. Parents of both parties will be informed.

What is bullying?

We recognise that many children will experience conflict in their relationships with other children and as a school we are committed to developing empathy and the skills to manage relationships in a peaceful way that does not harm others.

In Moor Park Primary School, our definition of bullying is:

“The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. It can happen face to face or online”



Why is it important to respond to bullying?

There is considerable evidence to show that bullying has both short term and longer term impact on pupils. Bullying impacts on pupils' wellbeing, can impact on attendance and become a significant barrier to learning. Bullying is associated with lower levels of school engagement and achievement both in primary and secondary schools and can lead to mental health concerns such as anxiety and depression.

Bullying is unacceptable. Our school will respond promptly and effectively to reported incidents of bullying.

In our school community:

- Everybody has the right to be treated with respect.
- Everybody has the right to feel happy and safe.
- No-one deserves to be a target of bullying.
- Pupils who bully need to learn different ways of behaving.

National research has shown that some groups of pupils are particularly vulnerable to bullying these include pupils with SEND, looked after children, pupils from minority ethnic groups or faiths, young carers, LGBT pupils and those perceived to be LGBT.

Types of bullying behaviour

Bullying can take many forms:

- Emotional - being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting, threatening behaviour
- Verbal - name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing, use of derogatory language
- Physical - pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Extortion - demanding money/goods with threats
- Online – use of social media, messaging and calls. Misuse of associated technology e.g photos and videos.
- Racist - racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Sexual - unwanted physical contact, sexually abusive comments
- Homophobic or biphobic - bullying because of sexuality or perceived sexuality
- Transphobic – because of gender identity or perceived gender identity

Preventing Bullying

We foster a clear understanding that bullying, in any form, is unacceptable. We believe that preventing bullying is the responsibility of our whole school community and when there are incidents of bullying we will work together to deal with the situation and to learn from what has happened.

In our school we do this by:

- Involving the school community in developing our policy including a child/ pupil friendly version of our policy.
- Using assemblies and PSHE in class to ensure that pupils understand the differences between relational conflict and bullying.
- Building a positive ethos based on respecting and celebrating all types of difference in our school.

- Creating a safe and happy environment, with positive relationships that have an impact on learning and achievement.
- Having a positive ethos The Moor Park Way that all pupils, staff and parents understand.
- Direct work in school which develops empathy, social skills and emotional understanding e.g. PSHE, Citizenship, circle time, The Hub pastoral area, Learning mentor, Pastoral team, Family Worker.
- Securing the safety of the target of bullying and taking actions to stop the bullying from happening again.
- Thinking about any safeguarding concern and reporting concerns to Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- Providing assurances to child that concerns have been listened to and action will be taken.
- Considering who else is involved and what roles they have taken.
- Sending clear message that the bullying must stop.
- Working with both parties to find solutions and identifying the most effective way of preventing re-occurrence and any consequences.
- Reflecting and learning from bullying episodes –consider what needs to happen next to prevent future bullying e.g. PSHE, training etc.
- Raising awareness of online bullying through regular e-safety lessons.
- Focused work with individuals and groups of pupils where required to support understanding and development of social skills eg social stories, learning mentor
- Ensuring playground staff are vigilant and we have a range of activities at lunchtime to promote positive play. Anti – Bullying Ambassadors are present on both playgrounds at playtime
- Offering training to all school staff around bullying, including specific guidance on those groups who are most likely to be bullied.

Reporting bullying

In our school pupils are encouraged to talk to staff when they are unhappy or have concerns. Pupils in our school understand that they have a right to feel and be safe and a responsibility to support others to feel and be safe.

Pupils are encouraged to report bullying to:

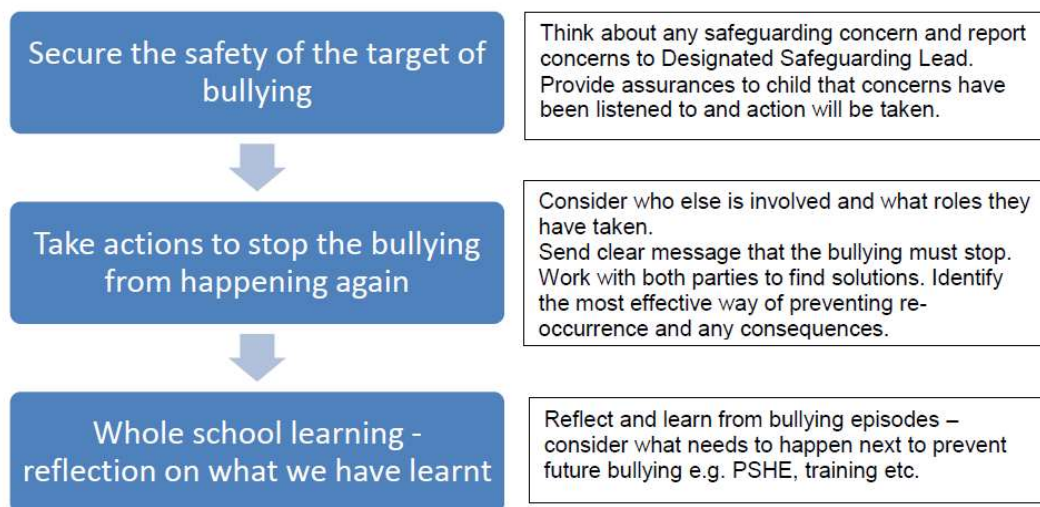
- A trusted adult
- Their class teacher/TA
- Anti-bullying Ambassadors

Children are taught that it is important to talk to a trusted adult if bullying is taking place outside of school.

Parents are also encouraged to report concerns and bullying to named individuals. This is normally the class teacher. The class teacher will complete an Alleged Bullying Form with relevant information and pass to the SLT.

When pupils report their concerns our staff are trained to LISTEN and to BELIEVE. We involve children as far as possible in finding solutions.

Responding to Bullying



We monitor and review all bullying incidents to determine any patterns or trends that may require further action. All Alleged bullying incidents must be recorded as soon as possible on the school Alleged Bullying Form and returned to SLT.

On a regular basis we give pupils the opportunity to feedback on how safe and happy they feel at school, we do this through pupil questionnaires and School Council meetings.

Procedures for parents:

- If a parent has any concerns about their child they should speak to the class teacher immediately. If a parent thinks bullying is the issue, the matter will be investigated and if necessary referred to the SLT. The Head of School is always informed of any bullying concerns at Moor Park Primary School and monitors the situation carefully.
- If a parent feels unable to talk to the class teacher, they can make an appointment to speak directly with the Head of School or Deputy Headteachers.
- The school will work with both the child and the parents to ensure that any bullying is stopped and that support is given where needed.
- Parents should not confront the bully or their parents. This can complicate the situation and distress the pupil.
- The school will deal directly with all children involved and their parents directly. Parents will be kept informed of any actions the school is taking.
- If parents feel that their concern has not been dealt with appropriately they should follow the schools complaints policy.

All members of the school community, including pupils, staff, parents and governors, are expected to treat everyone with dignity respect at all times. This includes both face-to-face contact and online.