PARTNERSHIP LEARNING
RIVERSIDE SCHOOL
Excellence for All

Headteacher: Andrew Roberts B.Sc. (Hons) | **Address:** 40 Thames Road, Barking, IG11 0HZ | **Web:** www.riversidecampus.com
Email: riverside@riverside.bardaglea.org.uk | **Tel:** 020 8270 6981

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Date approved:	September 2026
Review Frequency:	Every three years
Date next review due:	September 2029
Scope of Policy:	This policy applies to all staff, students and volunteers at Riverside School

1.0

Aims and objectives

- The governing body, Executive Principal and Head of School, through Riverside School's Anti-bullying Policy, aim to prevent and tackle bullying.
- We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our students so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We expect all our students to treat each other with respect and to celebrate each other's differences.
- We will continue to promote an anti-bullying culture within the school community, this relates to bullying incidents occurring anywhere on or off the school premises.
- To enable students, staff and parents to understand what constitutes bullying and their specific responsibilities in preventing, reporting and tackling bullying behaviour.
- To show zero tolerance towards any form of bullying.

Headteacher: Andrew Roberts B.Sc. (Hons) | **Address:** 40 Thames Road, Barking, IG11 0HZ | **Web:** www.riversidecampus.com
Email: riverside@riverside.bardaglea.org.uk | **Tel:** 020 8270 6981

Riverside School believes that:

Bullying is undesirable and unacceptable.

Bullying is a problem to which solutions can be found.

Seeking help and openness are regarded as signs of strength not weakness.

All members of our community will be listened to and taken seriously.

Everyone has the right to enjoy and achieve in an atmosphere that is free from fear.

All of us have a responsibility to ensure that we do not abuse or bully others.

Young people should talk to an adult if they are worried about bullying and have a right to expect that their concerns will be listened to and treated seriously.

Children and young people should be involved in decision making about matters that concern them.

We all have a duty to work together to protect vulnerable individuals from bullying and other forms of abuse.

Riverside School believes in tackling bullying by encouraging an environment where individuality is celebrated and individuals can develop without fear.

2.0 Key Principles

Riverside School:

Supports staff to promote positive relationships and identify and tackle bullying appropriately.

Ensures that students are aware that all bullying concerns will be dealt with sensitively and effectively, that students feel safe to learn and that students abide by the anti-bullying policy.

Reports back to parents/carers regarding their concerns on bullying and deals promptly with complaints.

Parents/ carers in turn work with the school to uphold the anti-bullying policy.

Seeks to learn from good anti-bullying practice elsewhere and utilises support from relevant external organisations when appropriate.

Students are encouraged to become anti bullying ambassadors and to take an active role in recognising and reporting bullying as well as mentoring their peers.

Discusses, monitors and reviews its anti-bullying policy on a regular basis.

The school uses the guidance from the DfE and the Anti-Bullying Alliance to inform its action planning to prevent and tackle bullying.

Headteacher: Andrew Roberts B.Sc. (Hons) | Address: 40 Thames Road, Barking, IG11 0HZ | Web: www.riversidecampus.com
Email: riverside@riverside.bardaglea.org.uk | Tel: 020 8270 6981

3.0 Definition of bullying

Bullying is defined as "Negative behaviour by an individual or a group, usually repeated over time that intentionally hurts another individual either physically or emotionally".

Bullying can include: name calling, taunting, mocking, making offensive comments,; kicking; hitting; taking belongings; inappropriate text messaging and electronic messaging (including through web-sites, Social Networking sites and Instant Messaging); sending offensive or degrading images by phone or via the internet; producing offensive graffiti; gossiping; excluding people from groups and spreading hurtful and untruthful rumours.

4.0 Forms of Bullying

Bullying can happen to anyone. This policy covers all types of bullying, including:

Bullying related to race, religion or culture.

Bullying related to special educational needs.

Bullying related to appearance or health conditions.

Bullying related to sexual orientation.

Bullying of young carers or looked after children or otherwise related to home circumstances.

Sexist or sexual bullying.

Cyber bullying.

5.0 Preventing bullying

At Riverside, we train and educate students on the effects of bullying.

Periodic student led anti-bullying campaigns to raise awareness and help students understand the negative effects of bullying.

We educate students on recognising the different roles within bullying behaviour and how to report effectively.

Headteacher: Andrew Roberts B.Sc. (Hons) | Address: 40 Thames Road, Barking, IG11 0HZ | Web: www.riversidecampus.com
Email: riverside@riverside.bardaglea.org.uk | Tel: 020 8270 6981

5.1 What Riverside School does to prevent bullying?

Everyone involved in the life of the school must take responsibility for promoting a common anti-bullying approach:

Be supportive of each other.

Provide positive role models.

Convey a clear understanding that we disapprove of unacceptable behaviour.

Be fully involved in the development of the anti-bullying policy and support anti-bullying practice.

Support each other in the implementation of this policy.

All members of the school community are expected to report incidents of bullying.

5.2 Responsibilities

Riverside School will:

Work with staff and outside agencies to identify all forms of prejudice-driven bullying.

Actively provide systematic opportunities to develop pupils' social and emotional skills, including their resilience.

Consider all opportunities for addressing bullying including through the curriculum, through displays, through peer support and through the School Council.

Train all staff including teachers, lunchtime staff, learning mentors, Teaching Assistants and support staff to identify bullying and follow school policy and procedures on bullying.

Actively create "safe spaces" as necessary for vulnerable children and young people.

Communicate the policy effectively to the school community.

Headteacher: Andrew Roberts B.Sc. (Hons) | Address: 40 Thames Road, Barking, IG11 0HZ | Web: www.riversidecampus.com
Email: riverside@riverside.bardaglea.org.uk | Tel: 020 8270 6981

Staff have a responsibility to:

Provide children with a framework of behaviour.

Emphasise and behave in a respectful and caring manner to young people and colleagues, to set a good tone and help create a positive atmosphere.

Raise awareness of bullying through activities, discussion, peer support, school council, PSHE etc.

Through the Head of School, keep the governing body well informed regarding issues concerning behaviour management.

Governors have a duty to:

Be fully informed on matters concerning anti-bullying.

Regularly monitor incident reports and actions taken to be aware of the effectiveness of this policy.

Take a lead role in monitoring and reviewing this policy.

Identify one governor to lead on anti-bullying.

Through the development and implementation of this policy, Riverside School trusts that all young people, parents/carers and staff will:

Feel confident that everything is being done to make Riverside School a safe and secure environment.

Know who can be contacted if they have any concerns about

bullying.

Feel supported in reporting incidents of bullying.

Be reassured that action regarding bullying will take place.

6.0 Recording and Responding to Bullying

Headteacher: Andrew Roberts B.Sc. (Hons) | **Address:** 40 Thames Road, Barking, IG11 0HZ | **Web:** www.riversidecampus.com
Email: riverside@riverside.bardaglea.org.uk | **Tel:** 020 8270 6981

6.1 Recording

All bullying incidents - either in or out of class - will be recorded by the school. The pastoral team will take responsibility for ensuring that the incident is properly recorded and that the record is updated as necessary throughout an investigation.

Parents of all young people involved will be informed of what has happened, and how it has been dealt with. All discussions and actions relating to the incident/investigation will be documented and added to the incident log.

6.2 Dealing with an Incident

Whenever a bullying incident is reported, the school will go through a number of steps. The exact nature of each step will be adapted to suit the nature and severity of the incident, and the response of those involved.

Riverside School expects to support all involved by:

Talking the incident through with all parties involved.

Supporting the person who has been bullied to express their feelings.

Supporting the person displaying the bullying behaviour to uncover any issues and correct behaviour.

Discussing which rule(s) have been broken and how this affects our community.

Discussing strategies for making amends.

Measures will be in line with the school's behaviour and discipline policy, which may include:

Explanation why the inappropriate behaviour is unacceptable.

Reparation of damaged relationships.

Peer mediation.

Headteacher: Andrew Roberts B.Sc. (Hons) | Address: 40 Thames Road, Barking, IG11 0HZ | Web: www.riversidecampus.com
Email: riverside@riverside.bardaglea.org.uk | Tel: 020 8270 6981

Support from appropriate external organisations.

Time away from an activity to reflect.

Meeting with staff, parent and child.

Pastoral support plan.

Detention after school.

Isolation.

Fixed term exclusion.

Permanent exclusion.

Safeguarding procedures will be followed when child protection concerns arise.

7.0 Involvement of students

Riverside School will:

Regularly canvas students' views on the extent and nature of bullying.

Ensure students know how to express worries and anxieties about bullying.

Ensure all students are aware of the range of sanctions which may be applied against those engaging in bullying.

Involve students in anti-bullying campaigns in school.

Publicise the details of helplines and websites.

Offer support to students who have been bullied.

Work with students who have been bullying in order to address the problems they may face and offer support.

Regularly make use of positive peer influence to promote healthy peer relationships rooted on respect and positive social interactions.

Headteacher: Andrew Roberts B.Sc. (Hons) | **Address:** 40 Thames Road, Barking, IG11 0HZ | **Web:** www.riversidecampus.com
Email: riverside@riverside.bardaglea.org.uk | **Tel:** 020 8270 6981

8.0 Liaison with parents and carers

Riverside School will:

Ensure that parents / carers know who to contact if they are worried about bullying.

Ensure parents know about the school's complaints procedure and how to use it effectively.

Ensure parents / carers know where to access independent advice about bullying.

Work with parents and the local community to address issues beyond the school gates that give rise to bullying.