



Antibullying Policy

Reviewed by	Headteacher
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Our school vision.

Hethersett VC Primary School empowers its children and their families to flourish and grow. Creativity, compassion, responsibility, the love of learning to gain knowledge and wisdom, combined with Christian values shape our inclusive education.

Together we are stronger, respecting ourselves and others to create a successful and healthy future.

Keep your roots deep in him, build your lives on him, and become stronger in your faith, as you were taught. And be filled with thanksgiving. Colossians 2:7

We encourage our pupils to have the following attitudes:

A celebration of differences between individuals

- High self-esteem
- Positive attitudes towards other children and adults
- A good understanding of our core Christian values – respect, truthfulness, creativity, compassion, responsibility and friendship.

We expect our pupils to feel safe in school, including an understanding of the issues related to safety, such as bullying. We also want them to feel confident to seek support from school should they feel unsafe.

The aim of this policy is to identify any bullying behaviours and deal with them in an agreed way.

The Anti-Bullying alliance defines bullying as:

- Hurting another person, or group, on purpose more than once.
- Bullying can involve using violence, hurtful words or ganging up to make another person feel helpless
- It can happen face-to-face or through the internet

How does bullying differ from teasing/falling out between friends or other types of aggressive behaviour?

- There is a deliberate intention to hurt or humiliate
- There is a power imbalance that makes it hard for the victim to defend themselves
- It is usually persistent

Occasionally an incident may be deemed to be bullying even if the behaviour has not been repeated or persistent – if it fulfils all other descriptions of bullying. This possibility should be considered, particularly in cases of sex

Bullying can take many forms, but the main types are:

Emotional being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures)

Physical pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence

Racist racial taunts, graffiti, gestures

Sexual unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments

Homophobic because of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality

Verbal name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing

Cyber All areas of internet, such as email & internet chat room misuse; mobile threats by text messaging & calls; misuse of associated technology, i.e. camera & video facilities

Preventing bullying

It is made clear to the children, by the headteacher in assemblies backed up by teachers in classrooms, that bullying is not tolerated in our school and everyone is expected to play their part to ensure that it does not happen.

Raising awareness about bullying behaviour is part of the curriculum work relationships undertaken in each class as part of the PSHE curriculum.

Cyber bullying is part of the school's e-safety curriculum.

Through assemblies and PSHE discussions (including during Anti-bullying week Collective Worship) all children will be taught that differences should be accepted and even celebrated, but never become a cause for bullying.

Children are encouraged to discuss:

- What bullying is and how it makes you feel
- Whom to tell
- How to react
- How to feel safe
- How to be assertive by using body language and stating clearly if other children are saying or doing something they do not like

Playtimes can be times of conflict. Strategies for preventing poor behaviour or bullying include:

- Good supervision of pupils
- Provision of sufficient play equipment – trim trail, tyre-park, games trolley items etc.
- Older children playing with younger children
- Organised play opportunities (e.g. from Premier Education)
- Access for some children to the 'Lunch Club', where indoor activities can be played and behaviour support offered by a member of staff
- Monitoring and observation of specific children as requested by the headteacher or assistant headteachers

Reporting incidents

All reported incidents are taken seriously and investigated involving all parties. Bullying behaviours are logged by staff members and recorded using our MIS.

Children can report bullying through our online reporting tool – Worry Monster (<https://www.hethersettvcprimary.co.uk/worry-monster/>)

Governors regularly monitor incidents of bullying and liaison with governors always takes place in the event of any serious incidents which may lead to exclusion.

If parents have concerns about bullying, they should contact their child's class teacher – this can be done through email or via the School Office.

Prejudice related incidents are also recorded on our MIS and also reported to Norfolk County Council.

Members of staff will follow the procedures in the school's behaviour policy, including the involvement of parents if bad behaviour persists. Sanctions for bullying behaviour include:

- Missing playtimes and completing behaviour sheets
- Lunchtime exclusions
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Individual work with victims or perpetrators might include referral to outside agencies, such as the 'Family Matters' who supports a small number of pupils on a weekly basis.