

Anti-Bullying Policy

This Anti-Bullying Policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

[Cyber-bullying Policy](#)

[Behaviour Policy](#)

[Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy](#)

[Code of Conduct](#)

Cyberbullying may be defined as ‘the use of electronic communication, particularly mobile phones and the internet, to bully a person, typically by sending messages of an intimidating or threatening nature: children and

- x Arrangements are made with the child to meet with a tutor or with another member of staff to review the situation repeatedly until such time as it is felt that there is no longer a concern.
- x The child is encouraged to inform a member of staff immediately should there be any repetition and a friend is sought, with the child's agreement, to speak on the child's behalf if necessary, given the difficulty that children can have in making such disclosures.
- x The child's parents are, likewise, asked to inform the school if they suspect, or hear from the child of any cause for further concern.

The Perpetrator/s

The proof that a child has been bullying creates very considerable difficulties for the child and, within the overriding concern to ensure that the welfare of other children is fully protected, it is essential to avoid further damage to a child's self-esteem, particularly given that low self-esteem is itself the single most likely cause of such behaviour.

- x The first concern in such circumstances is to endeavour to discover the cause of the behaviour and, with the child, to seek positive ways forward.
- x Once apologies have been made, any further sanction should, if at all possible, be seen as a positive way of restoring to the community that which has been taken away by the child's actions. Doing things to help others is both good in itself and good for self-esteem.
- x A clear agreement must be reached with a child about ways of avoiding such behaviour in future, including an agreement about where it is and is not appropriate to be, with whom it is and is not appropriate to be for an agreed future period. In many cases, such an agreement is best set down, by the child, in writing so that there is no uncertainty about the situation.
- x There should always be a clear date for review of the situation and for the lifting of any sanctions or restrictions on a child's movement given that all is well in the interim.
- x There should also be a clear indication of the consequences of any repetition of the bullying, though it should be clear that the child is not therefore going to be 'labelled' henceforth.
- x Parents should be informed of all the measures being taken and should, at an early stage in the proceedings, be invited to discuss the situation so that home and school can, as far as possible, be seen by the child to be working together.
- x The child's behaviour at school should be seen as such and parents should be encouraged to avoid making the school problem a home one. Having s

