



BURNHAM MARKET PRIMARY SCHOOL

Anti-Bullying Policy

Approval

Inspected and approved by Full Governing Body on:

Date: 6th October 2025

To be reviewed: 6th October 2026

Anti-bullying Policy

This policy has been written taking into consideration the school's Safeguarding Policy and this policy should be referred to in conjunction with the Safeguarding Policy at all times.

Statement of Intent

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils so that they can learn in a secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable in our school. If bullying does occur, all pupils should be able to tell an adult and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a TELLING school. That means that anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff.

What is Bullying?

Bullying is the use of repeated aggression with the intention of hurting another person, physically or mentally. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim. Bullying can be:

- Emotional - being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting
- Physical - pushing, kicking, hitting, punching, pulling hair 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 the internet, mobile phone threats by text messaging or calls, misuse of camera and video facilities

Why is it important to respond to bullying?

Bullying hurts. No-one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everyone has a right to be treated with respect. People who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving. Schools have a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

Objectives of this Policy

- To create a climate in which children are not afraid to report incidents of bullying.
- To respond quickly and effectively to all reported instances of bullying.
- To reduce instances of bullying to a minimum.

Signs and symptoms

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that he or she is being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs:

- Is frightened of walking to or from school
- Doesn't want to go to school on the bus
- Changes their usual routine
- Is unwilling to go to school
- Becomes withdrawn or anxious
- Starts stammering
- Cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares

- Feels ill in the morning
- Begins to do less well at school work
- Comes home with torn clothes, damaged or missing books or possessions
- Dinner money regularly goes missing
- Starts bullying other children or siblings
- Becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- Is frightened to say what's wrong

These signs and symptoms could indicate other problems, but bullying should not be ruled out.

Prevention

- This policy to be made known to all staff, volunteers, parents and pupils.
- The policy will be reinforced on a regular basis through other areas of the curriculum and annually through the national Anti-bullying Week and Safer Internet Day.
- Displaying E-Safety posters around the school.
- Co-operative behaviour is recognised and encouraged.
- 6 Golden Rules - School rules agreed by the children through the School Council and with parents.

Procedures

- Incidents of bullying are reported to the class teacher.
- Where the incidents are repeated, they are reported to the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher who records them in a Bullying and Incident Log and discusses the matter with the pupil — This Log Book is in the Head teacher's office.
- If recorded in log, parents are informed immediately either by phone or face-to-face.
- Attempts are made to help the bully change his or her behaviour.
- The victim of the bullying will be reassured that the matter is not being ignored.
- Volunteers in school are briefed as part of Safeguarding discussion how to report disclosures, which might involve bullying.

Outcomes

- The bully will be asked to apologise to the victim verbally or through a 'sorry note'.
- The bully will have to miss their break time and/or complete further work.
- The bully will experience a loss of class and home privileges.
- If possible, bully and victim will be reconciled.
- Exclusion as a response to bullying is used when necessary.

Monitoring

The effectiveness of the policy will be monitored by the Headteacher by scrutiny of the log and by questionnaires completed by pupils.

Evaluation: Will be by governors through report by Headteacher who is the nominated person to whom staff should report incidents of bullying.

