

Ropery Walk Primary School Anti-Bullying Policy



Introduction

We want Ropery Walk Primary School to be a caring, friendly and safe environment so that all our children can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere.

Bullying of any kind is not acceptable at our school.

Children and the adults involved with them are entitled to be treated with respect and understanding. They should be able to take part in any activity free from intimidation.

We will actively listen to children and act appropriately to make sure that our school is a safe, secure and positive place to be.



What is Bullying?

Bullying is when a person or group of people pick on someone over and over again.

Bullying can be different types:

- Physical e.g. hitting or kicking, taking something from someone e.g. money or a toy, ruining or breaking something
- Emotional e.g. hurting someone's feelings, making someone cry, threatening someone, making fun of someone, scaring someone, calling someone names, not letting people join in.

- Cyber-bullying e.g. sending nasty messages, putting on photos or name calling via social media, online gaming, text.
- Racial abuse or violence e.g. picking on someone because of their skin colour or culture.
- Religious or belief e.g. making fun or being nasty to people because of what they believe in.
- Homophobic and transphobic e.g. calling someone 'gay'; Gender e.g. saying they act 'like a girl' or 'act like a boy' in a negative way.
- Disability e.g. making fun or picking on someone who is disabled or has a special need.
- Pregnancy and Gender e.g. being teased because a family member is having a baby.
- Purposely using gender stereotypes to upset someone.

Sometimes children fall out with each other and end up fighting or arguing. If you fall out with someone or don't get on with someone, it does not mean you are being bullied. Bullying is when somebody is picked on day after day deliberately.



Objectives of this Policy

- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, children and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, should know what the school policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported.
- All children and parents should know what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying happens.
- As a school, we take bullying very seriously. Children and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Bullying will not be tolerated.

What are the signs that someone is being bullied?

If someone is being bullied, they may:

- be sad, upset or gloomy
- not want to come to school
- be afraid of being without an adult
- feel angry or nervous or scared
- have bruises or scratches
- cry a lot
- want to be alone
- isolated from others

- lie
- not seem 'happy' around friends
- Not want to go online
- Avoid certain people
- Take their feelings out on other people
- See children whispering/laughing about or at someone



What to do if you are being bullied.

TELL SOMEONE!

Speak out about bullying. Never be afraid to ask for help. Never reply to a bullying text message or e-mail: always show it to an adult. You could tell:

- a teacher
- a member of staff
- Place 2 Be
- Mam or Dad or family
- Buddies
- a friend
- a school parliament member

What to do if you think someone else is being bullied.

If you think someone is being bullied, the most important thing to do is to tell someone. You could also ask them if they would like to play with you or ask them if they need some help. Give support to the person being bullied. Report and block if this incident was online.

Procedures (LISTEN, TAKE ACTION, RECORD and FOLLOW UP)

1. Report bullying incidents to staff.
2. Ensure the immediate safety of the children.
3. Staff will investigate the incident, speaking to both sides and encouraging the children to discuss what has happened.
4. In cases of serious bullying, incidents will be recorded by staff.
5. In cases of serious bullying parents should be informed and will be asked to come in to school to discuss the problem.
6. Maintain contact and work with parents.
7. Consider a range of strategies to ensure the bullying does not happen again: this may include sanctions such as those listed below, as well as support from staff, Place 2 Be, Buddies (responsibility of class MPs) and Ask it Baskets
8. Make sure the buddy knows that this is not a good thing to do.

Outcomes for bullies

1. Head teacher and parents to be informed and involved.
2. The bully will always be asked to apologise.
3. Playtimes may be missed.
4. Bullies will have treats taken away for a set time e.g. they may be forbidden from using computers at lunchtime or playtime.
5. In serious cases bullies will face a fixed term exclusion: they may be kept away from other children in school.
6. Bullies will be warned about future behaviour and may face further exclusion.
7. After the incident has been investigated and dealt with, each case should be monitored to ensure the bullying does not happen again.



M.Devlin & Ropery Walk School Council, October 2007.

Reviewed January 2011.

Reviewed by School Council and Class Councils November 2014

Reviewed by Mrs J Allport October 2015

Reviewed by School Parliament November 2017

Reviewed by School Parliament May 2021

Reviewed by School Parliament & A Johnston June 2022

Reviewed by School Parliament March 2023