



THE MINSTER NURSERY AND INFANT SCHOOL

SCHOOL OF INSPIRATION

DETERMINATION HONOUR BELIEVE

PREPARING FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE WITH INNOVATIVE AND EXCITING LEARNING

Anti-Bullying Policy

Reviewed on: 1st December 2021

Signed.....Chair

To be reviewed on or before end of December 2024



WE ARE A VOLUNTARY AIDED (VA) SCHOOL WITHIN THE DIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

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The Minster Nursey and Infant School Anti-Bullying Policy 2021

Our Values and Vision:

At The Minster Nursery and Infant School we uphold and nurture our Christian ethos by encouraging the values of the Fruits of the Spirit, such as; friendship, thankfulness, forgiveness and kindness. We will develop children's self-esteem and sense of worth by creating an environment in which they feel positive about themselves. We will create a safe, healthy and happy school community in which children and adults are cherished and valued.

This policy is based on DfE guidance "Preventing and Tackling Bullying. Advice for headteachers, staff and governing bodies" and supporting documents "Supporting children and young people who are bullied: advice for schools", "Cyberbullying: advice for headteachers and school staff", "Advice for parents and carers on cyberbullying" November 2014 . It also takes into account the DfE statutory guidance, "Keeping Children Safe in Education" 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-and-tackling-bullying>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2>

Policy Objectives:

This policy outlines what The Minster Nursery and Infant School will do to prevent and tackle all forms of bullying. The policy has been drawn up through the involvement of the whole school community and we are committed to developing an anti-bullying culture where no bullying of adults, children or young people will be tolerated.

Our School Community:

- Discusses, monitors and reviews our anti-bullying policy and practice on a regular basis.
- Supports all members of staff to promote positive relationships to prevent bullying.
- Will intervene by identifying and tackling bullying behaviour appropriately and promptly.
- Ensures that pupils are aware that all bullying concerns will be dealt with sensitively and effectively; that pupils feel safe to learn; and that pupils abide by the anti-bullying policy.
- Requires all members of the community to work with the school to uphold the anti-bullying policy.
- Reports back to parents/carers regarding concerns on bullying and deals promptly with complaints.
- Seeks to learn from good anti-bullying practice elsewhere
- Utilises support from the Local Authority and other relevant organisations when appropriate.

Definition of bullying:

- Bullying is "Behaviour by an individual or a group, usually repeated over time that intentionally hurts another individual either physically or emotionally". (DfE "Preventing and Tackling Bullying", November 2014)
- Bullying can include: name calling, taunting, mocking, making offensive comments; kicking; hitting; taking belongings; producing offensive graffiti; gossiping; excluding people from groups and spreading hurtful and untruthful rumours.



- This includes the same inappropriate and harmful behaviours expressed via digital devices (cyberbullying) such as the sending of inappropriate messages by phone, text, Instant Messenger, through websites, social media sites and apps, and sending offensive or degrading imagery by mobile phone or via the internet.

Forms of bullying covered by this policy:

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

- Bullying related to race, religion or culture.
- Bullying related to SEND (Special Educational Needs or Disability).
- Bullying related to appearance or physical/mental health conditions.
- Bullying related to sexual orientation (homophobic bullying).
- Bullying of young carers, children in care or otherwise related to home circumstances.
- Sexist, sexual and transphobic bullying.
- Bullying via technology, known as online or cyberbullying.

Preventing, identifying and responding to bullying:

The school community will:

- Create and support an inclusive environment which promotes a culture of mutual respect, consideration and care for others which will be upheld by all.
- 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.
- Recognise that bullying can be perpetrated or experienced by any member of the community, including adults and children (peer on peer abuse).
- Provide a range of approaches for pupils, staff and parents/carers to access support and report concerns.
- Challenge practice which does not uphold the values of tolerance, non-discrimination and respect towards others.
- Consider all opportunities for addressing bullying in all forms throughout the curriculum and supported with a range of approaches such as through displays, assemblies, peer support and the school/student council.
- Regularly update and evaluate our approaches to take into account the developments of technology and provide up-to-date advice and education to all members of the community regarding positive online behaviour.
- Train all staff including teaching staff, support staff (including administration staff, lunchtime support staff and site support staff) and pastoral staff to identify all forms of bullying, follow the school policy and procedures (including recording and reporting incidents).



- Proactively gather and record concerns and intelligence about bullying incidents and issues so as to effectively develop strategies to prevent bullying from occurring.
- Take appropriate, proportionate and reasonable action, in line with existing school policies, for any bullying brought to the schools attention which involves or effects pupils even when they are not on school premises, for example when using school transport or online etc.
- Actively create “safe spaces” for vulnerable children and young people.
- Use a variety of techniques to resolve the issues between those who bully and those who have been bullied.
- Work with other agencies and the wider school community to prevent and tackle concerns.
- Celebrate success and achievements to promote and build a positive school ethos.
- Be encouraged to use technology, especially mobile phones and social media positively and responsibly.

Involvement of pupils:

We will:

- Have an annual anti-bullying week ‘BLUE’ which stands for Be Loving and Understanding to Everyone.
- Regularly discuss children’s views on the extent and nature of bullying through wellbeing questionnaires.
- Ensure that all pupils know how to express worries and anxieties about bullying.
 - Ensure that all pupils are aware of the range of sanctions which may be applied against those engaging in bullying.
 - Involve pupils in anti-bullying campaigns in schools and embedded messages in the wider school curriculum.
 - Publicise the details of help lines and websites.
 - Offer support to pupils who have been bullied and to those who are bullying in order to address the problems they have.

Liaison with parents and carers:

We will:

- Make sure that key information (including policies and named points of contact) about bullying is available to parents/carers on the school website and in the school office.
- Ensure that all parents/carers know who to contact if they are worried about bullying.
- Ensure all parents/carers know about our complaints procedure and how to use it effectively to raise concerns in an appropriate manner.
- Ensure all parents/carers know where to access independent advice about bullying.
- Work with all parents/carers and the local community to address issues beyond the school gates that give rise to bullying.



- Ensure that parents work with the school to role model positive behaviour for pupils, both on and offline.

Links with other school policies and practices:

This Policy links with a number of other school policies, practices and action plans including:

- Behaviour policy
- Complaints procedure
- Safeguarding and Child Protection policies

Online Safety and Acceptable Use Policies (AUPs) • Data Protection

Links to legislation:

There are a number of pieces of legislation which set out measures and actions for schools in response to bullying as well as criminal and civil law. These may include (but are not limited to):

- The Education and Inspection Act 2006, 2011
- The Equality Act 2010
- The Children Act 1989
- Protection from Harassment Act 1997
- The Malicious Communications Act 1988
- Public Order Act 1986
- The Computer Misuse Act 1990

Responsibilities:

It is the responsibility of:

- The Headteacher to communicate the policy to the school community and to ensure that disciplinary measures are applied fairly, consistently and reasonably.
- School Governors to take a lead role in monitoring and reviewing this policy.
- Governors, the Headteacher, Senior Leaders, Teaching and Non-Teaching staff to be aware of this policy and implement it accordingly.
- Staff to support and uphold the policy.
- Parents/carers to support their children and work in partnership with the school.
- Pupils to abide by the policy.

The named Governor with lead responsibility for this policy is:

The named member of staff with lead responsibility for this policy is: Stephanie Edmonds



Monitoring and review, putting policy into practice:

- The named Governor for bullying will report on a regular basis to the governing body on incidents of bullying and outcomes.
- The school will ensure that they regularly monitor and evaluate mechanisms to ensure that the policy is being consistently applied.
- Any issues identified will be incorporated into the school's action planning

Preventative Strategies:

High levels of Supervision i.e.

a) Playground - sufficient adults on the playground and a staff rota for lunchtimes

b) Midday Supervisor for each class

c) Full time Teaching Assistants in Foundation Stage and KS1 plus extra support where necessary d) Ensuring adequate adult/child ratio when going on school trip/walk etc

ii. Positive reinforcement kind/helpful behaviour e.g. if one child assists another who has fallen over in the playground. Reinforce caring for each other through Bible/related stories in Collective Worship, the school's values including the Fruits of the Spirit of Friendship, Thankfulness, Forgiveness and Trust and other appropriate curriculum areas.

iii. Remind children to say 'Stop, I don't like it' using a hand signal if another child does something to them that they don't like in the classroom/playground/toilet. If they persist tell Midday Supervisor/Classroom Assistant/Teacher straight away.

iv. Carpet Discussion Time - when incident brought to teacher's attention e.g. pushing/fighting, sit down and discuss with whole class how they feel about the incident. Would they like it to happen to them? How does it make them feel? What should they do?

v. Keep record of incidents - Complete an incident form when behaviours of concern are shown. If a pattern of behaviour is emerging or serious incident occurs contact parents to discuss ways of resolving the situation.

vi. Playground Equipment and adults support - markings/games on the playground, open sided garden house, picnic tables and lunchtime equipment (playground store-room) all help to keep children positively focused on desired behaviour as well as adult support for play.

vii. Teach children how to recognise when others do not like what is happening to them - sad face, crying. viii. Encourage children to use the playground buddies if they need a friend on the playground.