

Westgate Primary School



Child friendly version of our Anti-Bullying Policy

Objectives of this Policy

- For everyone to have an understanding of what bullying is.
- So everyone knows how to deal with bullying if it should happen.
- Everyone knows how seriously Westgate takes bullying.
- We say 'no to bullying' and we tell an adult.

Statement of Intent

Westgate is a **TELLING** school where bullying of any kind is regarded as unacceptable. This means that *anyone* who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff who will safeguard those who do so. We want every pupil to know that if bullying does occur, they should be able to tell a member of staff. Staff will take their responsibility seriously to deal promptly and effectively with incidents. We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect and we want pupils who are bullying to learn different ways of behaving. *(The children at Westgate Primary were consulted on the policy and their responses are in **RED**. This policy has been condensed and children have added their own suggestions to create a child friendly version of the policy.)*

Definition

Bullying is when someone repeatedly hurts someone on purpose. This can be physical, name calling, texting and on the internet. It is when someone is very unkind to someone else a lot and makes them feel sad.

Bullying can be:

Emotional:	Being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures);
Physical:	Pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence, taking;
Racist:	Racial taunts, graffiti, gestures, making fun of cultures, race or religion;
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.
Non-verbal:	Body language, gestures, facial expressions,
Cyber bullying:	Texts, email, calls, chat room misuse, being cruel on the internet

Signs and Symptoms

A child may show signs and symptoms of bullying.

The children added these observations:

- *feels ill*
- *cannot concentrate at school*
- *Children may look worried, upset or sad and won't play or talk with anyone*
- *They may not want to go to school*
- *There may be signs of being hurt such as bruises or cuts*
- *Avoid their friends and won't play group games*

Procedures

1. All bullying incidents are to be reported to the Head teacher.
2. Complaints will be investigated thoroughly by the Head teacher, ensuring that the person being bullied knows that their complaint is being taken seriously and that the bullying will be stopped quickly.
3. Details of the incidents will be recorded in the Incident Log.
4. Appropriate sanctions will be applied in school and a meaningful apology will be expected.
5. Parents will be informed and in the most serious cases, exclusion will be considered.
6. If necessary and appropriate, the community police officer will be consulted.
7. The aim will be to try to help the bully / bullies change their behaviour and, if possible, to reconcile the pupils.
8. After the incident / incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case should be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

At Westgate we:

- *Always tell an adult, friend or mediator*
- *Tell the bully to leave you alone and walk away*
- *Ignore the bully or explain what they are doing is unkind.*
- *Don't keep it inside you, tell a friend or a teacher*

Westgate helps someone who has been bullied by:

- *Dealing quickly with the problem*
- *Making sure adults in school know about it*
- *Mrs Eley (Learning mentor) gives lots of support*
- *Making sure they have friends to play with and your friends stand up for you.*
- *Peer mediators in the playground to help out and listen.*

Pupils who have bullied will be helped by

- discussing what happened
- establishing the wrong doing
- helping the child to change their behaviour in future
- work with the Learning Mentor about how to stop being a bully
- informing parents to help change the attitude of the pupil if necessary

Westgate supports the bully by:

- *Mrs Eley (learning mentor) working with them*
- *Explaining how that makes people feel*
- *Assemblies and class work about bullying*
- *Adults in school look out for all the children.*

Strategies to reduce bullying:

- Raising awareness about bullying, cyberbullying and the anti-bullying policy through writing a child friendly version of the policy and signing the anti-bullying pledge.
- Teaching pupils how constructively to manage their relationships with others
- Encouraging co-operative working: eg working together on shared tasks
- Use of peer mediators and Restorative Practice training. Mediation by peers where a neutral person helps resolution of disputes
- Stamps and rewards eg house points.
- PSHE and Circle time- also focusing on friendships groups
- Buddies
- Ethos statements, assemblies, class and school rules

At Westgate we all sign the anti-bullying pledge and it is displayed in our classrooms. We have a behaviour ladder and house points to encourage positive behaviours.

Restorative Practice

Westgate is a Restorative Practice school. This means that we work to ensure that children understand the consequences of their choices, words and actions, and the impact they have on others. Children are asked to think about what they have done and how it has affected those around them: in the case of bullying, the impact on the victim and on others too, who are directly or indirectly affected. Children are supported to take responsibility for their choices, words and actions, and to identify ways that they can make amends and improve the situation. Children who are victims of bullying are supported to express how they have been affected to enable the perpetrator to fully understand the impact they have had.

What is a mediator?

We have mediators at playtime who help us to develop our strategies to solve problems, to think about our choices and actions and how this can affect others.

A mediator is.....

A person in the middle who doesn't take sides

They help by listening to both sides of an argument

They are not there to solve the problems, but they are there to ask questions to help restore friendship and help you to solve it between yourselves.

They are good listeners and good communicators.

They help give you the skills to solve the argument and develop friendships.

I pledge
never to be afraid to stand up for those in need!

I pledge
to always educate others about bullying!

I pledge
to do my part in putting an end to bullying!

I Have Taken The Anti-Bullying Pledge



Please sign here.....
