

**St Mary's & St Peter's Catholic Primary**

# **Anti-Bullying Policy**

**Adopted: May 2016**  
**Review Date:**

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# St. Mary's & St Peter's Catholic Primary School

## Anti-Bullying Policy

***"I have come so that they may have life, and have it to the full"***  
(John 10-10)

### **Mission statement**

As members of this Christian community we are carriers of the vision:

- that we live together in peace and charity and in that spirit serve others.
- that we be people of prayer so that we may live justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with our God.

The mission of St. Mary's and St. Peter's Catholic Primary School is to provide a Christ centred worshipping community where uniqueness and difference is embraced and celebrated. Each person, especially the most vulnerable, is nurtured to achieve their full potential and human wholeness enabling them to make a valuable contribution to society as a child of God.

The school ethos is realised through the day-to-day life of the school.

### **Introduction**

St Mary's and St Peter's Catholic Primary School is completely opposed to bullying, will not tolerate it and believe it is entirely contrary to the behaviour, values and principles we work and live by. All members of the school community have a right to work in a secure, caring environment and have a responsibility to contribute, in whatever way they can, to the protection and maintenance of such an environment. We understand that it is our responsibility to introduce measures to prevent all forms of bullying, discrimination, harassment, and victimisation within our school.

### **Principles**

- \* Our pupils have a right to learn free from intimidation and fear
- \* Bullied pupils will be listened to and supported
- \* We will not tolerate bullying behaviour
- \* We all have a right to work in a secure, caring environment
- \* The needs of the victim are paramount
- \* Reported incidents will be taken seriously and thoroughly investigated

### **Definition of bullying**

Behaviour which is:

- repeated
- intended to hurt someone either physically or emotionally
- often aimed at certain groups, e.g. because of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation

It takes many forms and can include:

- \* physical assault, hitting, pushing or spitting
- \* teasing or spreading rumours about another or his/her family
- \* making threats
- \* name calling or belittling
- \* cyberbullying - bullying via mobile phone or online (e.g. email, social networks and instant messenger)

- \* Interfering with another's property, by stealing, hiding or damaging it
- \* Writing offensive notes or graffiti
- \* Excluding others from group activities

## **Responsibilities**

Our staff will:

- Foster in our pupil's self-esteem, self-respect and respect for others
- Demonstrate by example the high standards of personal and social behaviour we expect of our pupils
- Discuss bullying with all classes, so that every pupil learns about the damage it causes to both the child who is bullied and to the bully and the importance of telling a teacher about bullying when it happens
- Be alert to signs of distress and other possible indications of bullying
- Listen to children who have been bullied, take what they say seriously and act to support and protect them
- Promptly report suspected cases of bullying to the Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Promptly report any complaint by a parent about bullying, to the Designated Safeguarding Lead

The school expects our pupils to:

- Refrain from becoming involved in any kind of bullying, even at the risk of incurring temporary unpopularity
- Report to a member of staff any witnessed or suspected instances of bullying, to dispel any climate of secrecy and help to prevent further instances • If they experience bullying, not suffer in silence, but have the courage to speak out, to put an end to their own suffering and that of other potential targets

We ask our parents to support their children and the school by:

- Watching for signs of distress or unusual behaviour in their children, which might be evidence of bullying
- Advising their children to report any bullying to Designated Safeguarding Lead and explain the implications of allowing the bullying to continue unchecked, for themselves and for other pupils
- Advising their children not to retaliate violently to any forms of bullying
- Being sympathetic and supportive towards their children, and reassuring them that appropriate action will be taken
- Keep a written record of any reported instances of bullying
- Informing the school of any suspected bullying, even if their children are not involved
- Co-operating with the school, if their children are accused of bullying, try to ascertain the truth
- Point out the implications of bullying, both for the children who are bullied and for the bullies themselves

Everyone should work together to combat and work towards eradicating bullying.

## **Procedure for dealing with bullying**

The way we deal with incidents of bullying will depend on how serious the bullying is, always taking into account any special educational needs or disabilities.

The school:

- Will investigate immediately all reported bullying incidents
- Will record full details on the CPOMS system
- Will contact the parent or carer of all pupils concerned in the bullying incident
- Will discipline the bully or bullies

- May seek advice from relevant professional organisations
- May report to police or children's social care if deemed serious
- Are committed to monitor and review this policy annually updating as necessary

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