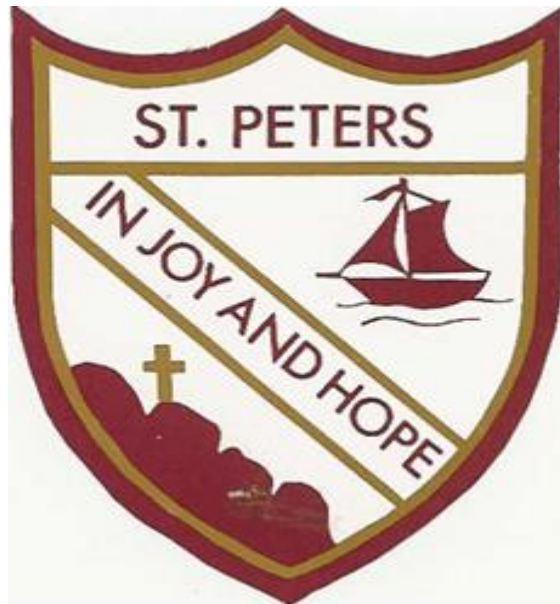


# **St Peter's Catholic Primary School**



## **ANTI BULLYING POLICY**

**Presented To Governors** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chair of Governors** \_\_\_\_\_

**At St Peter's Catholic Primary School we adopt a whole school approach to anti-bullying.**

## **Rationale**

St Peter's Catholic Primary School is completely opposed to all forms of bullying and will not tolerate it under any circumstances. All members of the St Peter's School Community have the right to learn, work and play in a secure and caring environment free from harm. They also have a responsibility to contribute, in whatever way they can, to prevent and report bullying behaviour.

## **Mission Statement**

**In Joy we live together**

**In Hope we build for the future**

At St Peters Catholic Primary School we promote positive interpersonal relationships between all members of the school community. The Catholic faith is central to the day to day life of our school and to all aspects of the curriculum. It is not an added extra which we offer our pupils. In delivering the curriculum the school recognises the uniqueness of each child and respects the value, dignity and individuality of each child. The School is committed to close collaboration both with parents and parish to offer the highest standards of academic, social, moral and religious education closely linked to the child's own potential, developing independence through active learning in an atmosphere of happy mutual respect between staff and pupil for the personal good of the child, the good of the school and parish community and towards the child's best integration with society at large.

## **Definition of bullying**

Our definition of bullying has been agreed in consultation with governors, school staff, parents, carers, and children from St Peter's Catholic Primary School.

Our children have decided:

"Bullying is any behaviour that is done on purpose; it can hurt, threaten or frighten a person who feels bullied. It is usually done over and over again."

We define Bullying as a harmful act or gesture towards an individual or group. The behaviour is usually repeated over a period of time that can lead to serious harm and stress to the individual and their families.

Forms of bullying

Verbal – name calling, tormenting, threats, Racism, Homophobia, and Transphobia, of a sexual nature or regarding a person's disability.

Physical – Hitting, kicking, spitting, pulling, pushing, biting

Indirect – Spreading rumours, glaring and staring, isolate them from games, writing graffiti notes, refusing to talk to a person.

Cyber/On-line – bullying through social networking, online gaming, text or direct messaging, photo changing software, emails, prank telephone calls, video hosting sites

## **Links with other school policies**

This policy should be read in conjunction with our E-Safety, Behaviour, Safeguarding, and Equality policies

## **Consultation and participation process**

- Participating in National Anti-Bullying week
- Awareness raising programmes – through SEAL, PHSE and outside agencies (theatre companies, outside agencies)
  - Questionnaires distributed to children (ensuring they are age appropriate and according to ability of pupil), parents/carers and school staff.
- Monitoring evaluation and review (ensuring consequences for bullies are effective and consistent)
- Obtaining the views of school council
- Sharing best practise through school networks

## **Responsibilities of all our staff members**

The responsibilities of staff

Our staff will:

- Be alert to signs of distress and other possible indications of bullying
- Discuss bullying openly with all classes, including the effects of bullying
- Listen and take time to talk to children who disclose bullying, take what they say seriously and investigate the situation
- Report suspected bullying to Mrs Farrelly
- Display anti-bullying messages throughout the school
- Seek support from outside agencies if required
- Be a good role model
- Show all pupils respect and treat all equally and fairly
- Be consistent with consequences for bullies

- Be sensitive when dealing with bullying issues e.g. don't tell the bully the victim has told them, wherever possible catch the bully in the act
- Communicate effectively with all involved in working with the child including parents, even if you have little to report
- Boost children's self-esteem by praise, compliments and encouragement
- Safeguard all pupils who report bullying
- Use systems in place e.g. School Buddies, Peer mentors, Restorative approaches
- Keep school yards highly supervised with staff strategically placed

## **The responsibilities of our pupils**

We expect our pupils to:

- Not suffer in silence, think of five people you can turn to at home or at school if you feel you are being bullied (five finger friends)
- Be a good friend to all who need one
- Walk away from dangerous situations or places
- Never join in with bullying behaviour
- Not watch bullying behaviour you must walk away and report it
- Tell the truth if asked by a teacher

## **The responsibility of parents/carers**

We expect our parents and carers to:

- Inform the school of any suspected bullying even if it is not their child
- Co-operate with the school and work together to prevent any long term damage from bullying
- Advise children not to retaliate through violence towards any situation
- Encourage their child to report bullying to a member of staff
- Be sympathetic and supportive towards their child and reassure them
- If your child has been accused of bullying others, work in cooperation with the school

## **Preventative measures**

- Pastoral support
- Awareness raising
- Parents/staff information and support

- Classroom management

## **Procedures for dealing with incidents of bullying**

### **Steps taken to support the person being bullied and their family**

- Befriending
- Circle of friends
- Support groups
- Mediation by adults
- Mediation by peers (Buddies)
- Social Skills groups
- CEOP Think you know training for children, staff and parents

### **Steps taken to support the needs of the bully and their family**

- Befriending
- Circle of friends
- Support groups
- Mediation by adults
- Mediation by peers (Mentor support)
- Social Skills groups
- CEOP Think you know training for children, staff and parents

#### **Befriending**

Befriending involves assigning selected pupil volunteers to be with and befriend pupils who are being bullied or having difficulties because they are new to the school or upset by an event outside school, e.g. a family bereavement.

The objective is to give the befriended pupil someone to talk to and to help them feel more positive about themselves.

#### **Circle of Friends**

A small number of pupils volunteer to form a circle of friends for a vulnerable pupil to help improve the pupil's level of inclusion and acceptance and to increase insight into his or her feelings and behaviour.

## Support Groups

The support group for a bullied pupil includes those involved in the bullying. The aim is to get the bully to identify with the victim and then to help resolve the problem.

## Mediation by adults

Members of staff can help establish ground rules between pupils who are being bullied and the pupils who are doing the bullying to help them co-exist in school.

### • **Accurate record keeping**

The school will keep records of all incidents and the school's response

### • **Action which may be taken**

- > Contacting parents/carers of ALL pupils involved in the bullying incidents
- > Investigation – involve the police if necessary
- > Feedback to all concerned
- > Sanctions (possible exclusion, missing break time, missing golden time, exclusion from outings)
- > Involving relevant professionals
- > Continuous ongoing support for bullied person

## **Bullying outside of school premises**

Section 89(5) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 gives Head teachers the power to regulate pupils' conduct when they are not on school premises and are not under the lawful control or charge of a member of school staff. This legislation does not apply to independent schools.

By making good connections throughout the schools community with local residents, transport providers, Community Police officers, local businesses, park rangers etc., Head Teachers can gather evidence of bullying incidents outside of school.

## **Continuous Professional Development**

At St Peter's Catholic Staff receive regular training in the area of anti-bullying via online, face to face training and cluster training.

## **Monitoring and reviewing**

This policy is monitored and reviewed annually. Adaptations will be made as required in response to data upon the impact of the policy.

# St Peter's Catholic Primary School- Bullying Concerns – Prompt Form

Pupil Name \_\_\_\_\_

What happened?

When did it happen?

Where did it happen?

Did anyone witness the event?

Outcomes:

Checked for earlier incidents involving the same pupil;

Notified parents/ carers;

Individual discussion with pupils involved;

Group discussion with pupils involved;

Notified class teacher

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Anti- Bullying Policy Follow-up Record

Date	Action taken by	Brief Description of Action	Outcome

Bullying stopped – Yes / No

Further action to be taken:

Any other comments