



Wickham Common

Primary School

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Policy for ANTI-BULLYING

Renewed: January 2016

Review: January 2019

Wickham Common Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

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WICKHAM COMMON PRIMARY SCHOOL

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

As stated in our Behaviour Policy this document is for the whole school community, including children, parents, staff and governors and is based on a sense of community and shared values.

Led by the School Council, all classes have discussed this policy and have come up with their own ideas; their contributions are in italics throughout.

Aims

- We aim to create a caring, family atmosphere where learning can take place in a safe and happy environment.
- We aim to promote a positive attitude towards academic work and social relationships.
- We aim to reduce the potential for bullying behaviour through improving the school environment and developing curriculum work.
- We aim to provide a framework for dealing with any incidence of bullying.
- We aim to encourage a culture and ethos within which bullying is seen to be totally unacceptable behaviour.

Definition of bullying

Hurting someone over and over again. Being called names. It happens every day.

Bullying is behaviour which deliberately makes another person feel uncomfortable, distressed or threatened.

Bullying is repeated over time.

Bullying makes those being bullied feel powerless to defend themselves.

Why are we against bullying?

Because it makes people sad and we don't want people to be sad. We don't have many bullies, but we want zero bullying. We don't want people hurt. Everyone needs to feel safe. Bullying is not treating students how they would like to be treated. Bullies could get worse as they get older, so they need to learn not to bully.

At Wickham Common we believe that 'Every Child Matters'because:

- everyone has the right to feel welcome, secure and happy
- we should treat everyone with consideration
- if bullying happens it will be dealt with quickly and effectively
- it is important to tell someone

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school.

What types of bullying are there?

Tripping someone over on purpose; kicking, pushing, calling names, hitting, punching; not playing with someone; making up secrets about someone; bossing you around like you're their slave; teasing and winding you up, insulting you.

- Emotional (being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting, threatening behaviour)
- Verbal (name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing)
- Physical (pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence)
- Extortion (demanding money/goods with threats)
- Cyber (all areas of internet, email and internet chatroom misuse. Mobile threats by text messaging and calls. Misuse of associated technology ie: camera and video facilities including those on mobile phones.
- Racist (racial taunts, graffiti, gestures)
- Sexual (unwanted physical contact, sexually abusive comments)
- Homophobic (because of, or focussing on, the issue of sexuality)

What are the signs and symptoms of bullying?

Going from being happy to unhappy; bruises and marks; crying a lot; feeling tormented; they don't want to come to school.

A child may indicate by signs or behaviours that he or she is being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and should investigate if a child;

- Is frightened of walking to or from school
- Changes their usual routine
- Is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
- Begins to truant
- Becomes withdrawn, anxious or lacking in confidence
- Becomes aggressive, abusive, disruptive or unreasonable
- Starts stammering
- Threatens or attempts self harm
- Threatens or attempts to run away
- Cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- Feels ill in the morning
- Performance in school work begins to drop
- Comes home with clothes torn, property damaged or 'missing'
- Asks for money or starts stealing money
- Has dinner or other monies continually 'lost'
- Has unexplained cuts or bruises
- Comes home 'starving'
- Is bullying other children or siblings
- Changes their eating habits
- Is frightened to say what is wrong
- Is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone
- Is nervous or jumpy when a cyber message is received
- Gives improbable excuses for their behaviour.

These signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated.

What causes Bullying?

Bullies bully because they are angry. They've been bullied themselves. Bullying makes them feel powerful and big and strong;

People bully for different reasons. The reasons could be:

- to feel powerful
- jealousy
- to feel good about themselves
- to be in control
- because they want something (attention, possession or friends)
- to look good in front of other people
- to feel popular
- because of peer pressure
- to be big/clever
- for fun
- because they are being bullied themselves
- because they see and pick on an easy target (small, won't tell anyone, lonely or different in some way)

How can we prevent Bullying?

We need to show people how to be nice: write signs, design a banner saying 'No Bullying'. Have nice areas in the playground, like the Year 6 garden..

- Assemblies to regularly focus on respecting and valuing other people's culture, beliefs and feelings.
- Addressing issues through links in the curriculum, particularly through PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) and SEAL (Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning) as well as Drama and Religious Education.
- Staff giving regular praise of positive and supportive behaviour.
- Any incidents treated seriously and dealt with immediately by all staff at Wickham Common.

Why is it important to respond to bullying?

So we can sort it out, otherwise the bully will do it all over again.

Bullying Hurts!

Everybody has the right to be treated with respect.

Everybody has the right to feel happy and safe.

No-one deserves to be a victim of bullying.

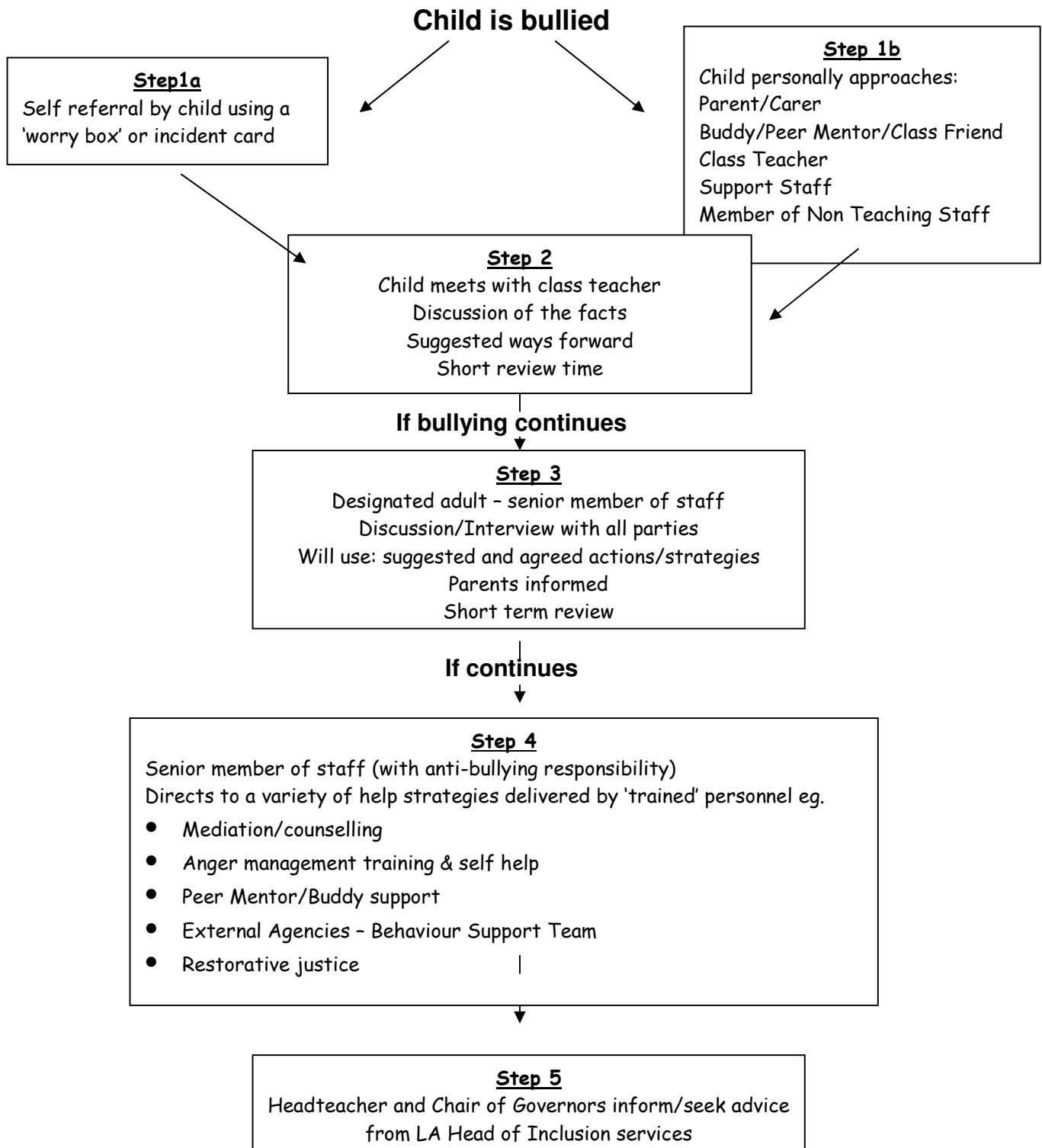
Bullies need to learn different ways of behaving.

Our school will respond promptly and effectively to reported incidents of bullying

Responses to Bullying

RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES IN SCHOOL FOR REPORTING BULLYING

PATHWAYS OF HELP



Responsibilities

As bullying of any kind is unacceptable at Wickham Common, we expect children to show respect and tolerance in their relationships with all members of the school community. We encourage pupils to Say NO to Bullying and support all children to speak out and report any incidents of bullying.

If a pupil, or a parent, reports a case of bullying to you, it is the responsibility of all members of staff to:

- Treat it seriously.
- Listen carefully and record all incidents.
- Offer the victim immediate support and help by putting the school's procedure into action.

If a parent is concerned that their child is being bullied, or may be bullying others, they should contact their child's teacher immediately. It is also expected that parents will support the school's Anti-Bullying Policy and actively encourage their child to be a positive member of the school community.

It is the responsibility of the Headteacher to implement and ensure that all staff (both teaching and non-teaching) are aware of the school policy and know how to deal with an incident of bullying.

The Governing Body will support the Headteacher in all attempts to eliminate bullying from our school. They will also monitor the incidents of bullying that occur and review the effectiveness of the Anti-Bullying Policy.

Monitoring and Review

The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school. The school will review the policy annually through the PDWB team (Personal Development and Well-being) and the Governing Body.

Reviewed January 2016
Social and Emotional Team

Support Agencies

Anti-bullying Alliance - the alliance brings together over 60 organisations into one network with the aim of reducing bullying. Their website has a parent section with links to recommended organisations who can help with bullying issues

www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Kidscape – has 3 useful and free booklets about bullying

www.kidscape.org.uk

02077303300

Childline – advice and stories from children who have survived bullying

08000 1111

Parentline Plus – advice and links for parents www.parentlineplus.org.uk

08088002222

Useful sources of information

Think U Know - the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP), has produced a set of resources around internet safety for schools

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Know IT All for Parents – a range of resources for primary and secondary schools by Childnet International. Has a sample family agreement

www.childnet-int.org/kia/parents