



Bishop Cornish CEVA Primary School **Anit-Bullying Policy**

Date Reviewed: October 2024

Next Review: September 2025

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Our Mission Statement: To inspire through faith and love, that all may flourish.

*Those who do what is right will flourish like a palm tree,
they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon;
¹³ planted in the house of the Lord,
they will flourish in the courts of our God.
¹⁴ They will still bear fruit in old age,
they will stay fresh and green,
¹⁵ proclaiming, "The Lord is upright;
he is my Rock, and there is no *wrong* in him." Psalm 92 12:15*

The Christian values that we hold as a school permeate throughout all areas of school life.

Friendship, Perseverance, Respect, Compassion, Trust, Justice

In the context of Christian belief and practice, we aim to:

Provide an inclusive, supportive and nurturing environment, shaped by Christian values in which children can learn and flourish. Our vision, 'To inspire through faith and love, that all may flourish' where we aim to working together as a family, nourish the mind with knowledge and understanding, foster feelings of awe and wonder about the world in which we live, so that all flourish, living life in all its fullness and our six Christian values of Friendship, Perseverance, Respect, Compassion, Trust, Justice underpin all that happens in school in creating a harmonious environment where all are valued and treated respectfully.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Bishop Cornish CofE VA Primary School is committed to providing all children with a safe and secure learning environment, free from harassment, intimidation and bullying.
- 1.2. Bullying is wrong and damages individual children. We therefore do all we can to prevent it by developing an ethos in which bullying is regarded as unacceptable.
- 1.3. Where instances of bullying arise, the school will follow the guidelines set out in this policy to enable staff to identify children engaging in bullying, support those children so that they can change their behaviour and keep all other children safe and happy.

2. DEFINITION OF TERMS

- 2.1. Only incidents that amount to bullying will be dealt with by this policy.

Bullying

- 2.2. Bullying is the use of force, threat or coercion to abuse, intimidate or aggressively dominate others. Children often have arguments with each other, and isolated incidents will not usually be classed as bullying.

Types of bullying

- **Physical:** when a child physically harms a student or damages the student's property.
- **Verbal:** when a child verbally harms a student through name-calling etc.

Cyber-bullying

- 2.3. Cyber-bullying is the use of technology to bully another person, typically by sending messages of an intimidating or threatening nature.

Types of cyber-bullying

- **Flaming:** Online fights usually through emails, instant messaging or chat rooms where angry and rude comments are exchanged.
- **Exclusion:** Intentionally leaving someone out of a group such as instant messaging, friend sites, or other online group activities.
- **Outing:** Sharing secrets about someone online including private information, pictures, and videos.
- **Trickery:** Tricking someone into revealing personal information then sharing it with others.
- **Impersonation:** Pretending to be someone else when sending or posting mean or false messages online.
- **Harassment:** Repeatedly sending malicious messages to someone online.

3. PREVENTING BULLYING

- 3.1. It is the responsibility of the Headteacher to implement the school's anti-bullying strategy, to ensure that all staff are aware of the policy and provided with relevant training, so they know how to identify and deal with incidents of bullying.
- 3.2. Staff will use a range of methods to help prevent bullying and to establish a climate of trust and respect for all. They will use drama, role-play, and stories etc. within the curriculum to help children understand the feelings of bullied children and to practise the restraint required to avoid lapsing into bullying behaviour. Time will also be used to praise, reward and celebrate the successes of all children, to help create a positive atmosphere.
- 3.3. Parents have a responsibility to support the school's anti-bullying strategy, actively encouraging their child to be a positive member of Bishop Cornish CofE VA Primary School. Parents who are concerned that their child might be being bullied, or who suspect that their child may be the perpetrator of bullying, should contact their child's class teacher.
- 3.4. Children should tell an adult if they are being bullied, and if the bullying continues, they must keep on letting people know.

4. RECORDING AND TAKING ACTION AGAINST INCIDENTS OF BULLYING

4.1. All staff take all forms of bullying seriously and seek to prevent it from taking place.

Teachers and All Staff

4.2. Teachers keep a record of all incidents that happen in their class, and incidents that they are aware of in the school involving children in their class.

4.3. If a member of staff witnesses an act of bullying, they will investigate it themselves and then refer it to the child's teacher. All staff will do all they can to support the child who is being bullied.

Leadership Team

4.4. If a child is repeatedly involved in bullying other children, the member of the Leadership Team will be asked to contact the child's parent.

4.5. These cases will be discussed and monitored at Leadership Team meetings.

Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher

4.6. If bullying continues the matter will be referred to the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher who may invite the child's parents into the school to discuss the situation.

4.7. In more extreme cases, for example where these initial discussions have proven ineffective, the Headteacher may feel the bully should be internally excluded from their classes. This means that he/she will spend part of the school day supervised by a senior member of staff away from the child or children that they are bullying.

4.8. If bullying continues still, the Headteacher will consider fixed-term exclusion.

4.9. The Headteacher will keep accurate records of all incidents of bullying and to report to the Governors on request about the effectiveness of the school's anti-bullying strategies.

Governors

4.10. The Governing Body supports the Headteacher in all attempts to eliminate bullying from the school, including monitoring incidents of bullying that do occur and regularly reviewing the effectiveness of this policy.

Parents and Carers

- 4.11. A Parent or Carer who is dissatisfied with the way the school has dealt with a bullying incident can make a complaint to the Chair of Governors. The complaint will be dealt with in accordance with the Complaints Policy which can be accessed from the school's website.

5. STRATEGIES TO REDUCE BULLYING

- 5.1. Bishop Cornish CofE VA Primary school has adopted the following strategies to prevent and reduce bullying, including:

- Take part in initiatives such as Anti-Bullying Week
- Reinforcement of the clear message that violence has no place at the school
- Training for all members of staff on anti-bullying policy and strategy
- Supervision by school staff of all play areas at lunch times and breaks
- Discuss and explore bullying issues with the children
- Contact the parents of both the child being bullied and the bully
- Providing information to all parents on the symptoms of bullying and the steps to take if they suspect their child is being bullied
- A clear policy that mobile phone use is not permitted during school hours
- Raising awareness of cyber bullying and teaching children to safely use technology
- The celebration of all children's backgrounds and cultures through assemblies
- Challenge sexual content within verbal abuse especially challenging the word 'gay' and other homophobic language.

6. USEFUL WEBSITES

www.bullying.co.uk
www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk
www.childline.org.uk
www.kidscape.org.uk
www.each.education
www.youngminds.org.uk
www.youngstonewall.org.uk
www.nspcc.org.uk
www.stoptextbully.com
www.beyondbullying.com
www.childnet-int.org
www.cyberbullying.org

www.chatdanger.com
www.thinkuknow.co.uk
