**St. Mary’s CE Primary School, Davyhulme**

**Anti Bullying POLICY**

All the activities in St Mary’s School are carried out in the Christian spirit and should promote the school values of Faith, Family and Future – Building a positive future for all as part of God’s loving family.

**INTENT**

We believe that all pupils have the right to learn in a safe, caring environment without the fear of being bullied. At St. Mary’s CE Primary School we strive for excellence in education by providing a safe, secure, caring family environment, where all are valued and respected as individuals, enabling them to reach their full potential, whilst growing in their love and understanding of the Christian Faith.

We make it clear that bullying is anti-social and contrary to our ethos. It is not acceptable and will not be tolerated.

We feel that it is important for pupils and parents / guardians to know that any bullying complaints will be dealt with firmly, fairly and promptly.

**Recognising bullying**

Bullying is defined as deliberately hurtful behaviour, repeated over a period of time. The main types of bullying are:

•Emotional- being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures)

•Physical - pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence

•Verbal - name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing

•Racial - racial taunts, graffiti, gestures

•Sexist - unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments

•Sexual orientation - cause of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality

•Virtual/Cyber-bullying - use of email or texts

**It is not bullying when:**

* there is no intention to hurt or harm i.e. behaviour is thoughtless or accidental;
* pupils are misbehaving/responding/reacting to one another in retaliation (Although this is not bullying, the misbehaviour is serious and will be dealt with in school)
* there is a good reason why others cannot be included in a group activity;
* there is a one off fight/argument between pupils of equal stature or strength;
* a pupil is called a nickname with which she/he is happy.

**Why is it important to respond to bullying?**

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect. Pupils who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving. We have a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

If bullying, or cyber-bullying does occur, all pupils should feel empowered to report it and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively

**Aims and objectives of the Anti-bullying policy**

* All Governors, staff, parents and children should understand what bullying is.
* All Governors and staff should know what the school’s Anti Bullying Policy is and
* follow it when bullying or cyber bullying is reported.
* All pupils and parents should be aware of the procedures to follow in the School’s Anti-bullying policy.
* As a school we take bullying very seriously. Pupils and parents know that they will be fully supported when bullying or cyber bullying is reported.
* Bullying and cyber bullying will not be tolerated. It is our responsibility to ensure that when it occurs any incident of bullying is dealt with in line with this policy.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

**Involvement of parents/carers:**

We encourage parents to let us know if they think that their child is being bullied at school. If bullying is taking place we meet with parents and jointly agree measures to attempt to solve the problem. The aim of the meetings is to minimise the likelihood of further bullying.

We will ensure that:

* Parents are clear about the joint problem solving focus.
* Parents’ right to express their opinion is respected and they have an opportunity to have their say.
* The meeting is purposeful and ends on a positive note.

**Prevention of bullying incidents at school:**

There are many opportunities for children to develop their understanding of bullying and share their experiences, which is a strong preventative measure for bullying and cyber- bullying. Our Christian values are central to the ethos of our school, especially those of: community, friendship, forgiveness, truth, courage and thankfulness. Through collective worship and whole school assemblies we promote positive behaviours and actions and remind children of the choices they have.

We ensure that all children are aware of the behaviour classed as bullying and this is updated frequently through assemblies, RE and PSHCE integrated within the curriculum. Each class regularly reviews the Golden Rules of the school. In addition, we hold an anti-bullying focus week each year, (National Anti-Bullying Week)

Children are encouraged to ‘tell’ if they are being bullied. Children are reminded that they can come and talk to any adult they trust in school and we have ‘Worry Boxes’ in each class for children who don’t feel that they can speak to someone.

Through the computing curriculum, cyber bullying and e-safety are topics which are addressed regularly throughout the year at age appropriate levels.

**If bullying occurs:**

•A secure environment is provided in which incidents can be reported confidently.

•The bullying behaviour is investigated and the bullying will be stopped quickly

•Incidents will be reported to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) as well as keeping parents and guardians informed.

•A log is kept of bullying incidents ( including the date of the incident/s and the

response- CPOMS is used to monitor this)

•The pupil who has been bullied is made to feel safe and treated in a respectful

manner

•All pupils are made aware/shown that bullying is taken seriously.

•The school will protect and support all parties involved.

•The person who has bullied will be encouraged to behave in an acceptable way

(Please refer to behaviour policy for rewards and sanctions)

•Those responsible will receive support to change their behaviour from school and home.

•All incidents will be followed up and monitored.

**Staff support and training:**

The school will ensure that all staff receive training on the implementation of this policy. New staff induction will include policy awareness.

Staff will discuss incidents and share relevant information ensuring that, as a small school, all staff are aware of potential problems.

Planning, teaching and assessment of PSHE and e-safety topics with bullying themes are shared and discussed as part of the curriculum.

Staff are able to log and monitor significant issues on CPOMS.

**Assessment, monitoring, evaluation and reviewing:**

This policy is reviewed on an annual basis by SLT and Governors
The monitoring of the effectiveness of the policy will be undertaken in a variety of ways including:

* Regular reviews of the log on CPOMS
* Review of the effectiveness of interventions
* Annual school questionnaire for children
* Questionnaire for parents
* School Council Review

**Links to other policies:**

This Anti-bullying Policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies: •

Behaviour Policy
Teaching and Learning
SEN and Inclusion
Safeguarding
Complaints / Parental Concerns

Computing Acceptable Use Policy (Teachers and Children)

**Further support:**

Anti-Bullying Alliance – www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk
Kidscape – www.kidscape.org.uk
NSPCC - http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/bullying- and-cyberbullying/
Bullying Online – www.bullying.co.uk
Cyberbullying.org – www.cyberbullying.org
BBC Parental Guidance on Cyber bullying - http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/cyber\_bullying/
Childline – 08000 1111



**Article 3:** The best interest of the child must come first.

**Article 12**:: Every child has the right to say what they think in all matters affecting them, and to have their views taken seriously.

**Article 14:** Every child has the right to think and believe what they want and also to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights.

**Article 19:** Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and mistreatment by their parents or anyone else who looks after them.

**Article 29:** Education must develop every child’s personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child’s respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

**Article 31:** Every child has the right to relax, play and join in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.