



Anti-Bullying Policy

Date:	May 2026
Responsible Governors:	Full Governing Body
Review in:	May 2027

This policy is based on DfE guidance “Preventing and Tackling Bullying. Advice for headteachers, staff and governing bodies”, March 2014.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-and-tackling-bullying>

1) Objectives of this Policy

This policy outlines what Barns Green Primary School will do to prevent and tackle bullying. The policy has been drawn up through the involvement of the whole school community and we are committed to developing an anti-bullying culture whereby no bullying, including between adults or adults and children and young people will be tolerated.

2) Our school community:

- Discusses, monitors and reviews our anti-bullying policy and practice on a regular basis.
- Supports all staff to promote positive relationships to prevent bullying and will intervene by identifying and tackling bullying behaviour appropriately and promptly.
- Ensures that pupils are aware that all bullying concerns will be dealt with sensitively and effectively, that pupils feel safe to learn and that pupils abide by the anti-bullying policy.
- Reports back to parents/carers regarding their concerns on bullying and deals promptly with complaints. Parents/ carers in turn work with the school to uphold the anti-bullying policy.
- Seeks to learn from good anti-bullying practice elsewhere and utilises support from the Local Authority and other relevant organisations when appropriate.

3) Definition of bullying

Bullying is “Behaviour by an individual or a group, usually repeated over time that intentionally hurts another individual either physically or emotionally” (DfE “Preventing and Tackling Bullying”, March 2014).

Bullying can include name calling, taunting, mocking, making offensive comments; kicking; hitting; taking belongings; producing offensive graffiti; gossiping; excluding people from groups and spreading hurtful and untruthful rumours. This includes the same inappropriate and harmful behaviours expressed via digital devices (cyberbullying) such as the sending of inappropriate messages by phone, text, Instant Messenger, through websites and social media sites and apps, and sending offensive or degrading images by mobile phone or via the internet.

4) Forms of bullying covered by this Policy

Bullying can happen to anyone. This policy covers all types of bullying including:

- Bullying related to race, religion or culture.
- Bullying related to SEND (Special Educational Needs or Disability).
- Bullying related to appearance or physical/mental health condition
- Bullying related to sexual orientation (homophobic or biphobia bullying).

- Bullying of young carers, children in care or otherwise related to home circumstances.
- Sexist, sexual and transphobic bullying.
- Bullying via technology – “cyberbullying” 5) Preventing, identifying and responding to bullying

The school community will:

- create and support an inclusive environment which promotes a culture of mutual respect, consideration and care for others which will be upheld by all
- work with staff and outside agencies to identify all forms of prejudice-driven bullying
- actively provide systematic opportunities to develop pupils’ social and emotional skills, including their resilience
- provide a range of approaches for pupils, staff and parents/carers to access support and report concerns
- We listen to all those who experience homophobic and transphobic bullying, ensuring their voices guide our response and support, while taking immediate action to stop the behaviour and prevent it from happening again.
- challenge practice which does not uphold the values of tolerance, non- discrimination and respect towards others
- consider all opportunities for addressing bullying in all forms throughout the curriculum and support these with a range of approaches such as displays, assemblies, peer support and the School Council
- regularly update and evaluate our approaches to take into account the developments of technology and provide up-to-date advice and education to all members of the community regarding positive online behaviour
- train all staff including teaching staff, support staff (including administration staff, lunchtime support staff and site support staff) and pastoral staff to identify all forms of bullying and follow the school policy and procedures (including recording and reporting incidents)
- Our school is committed to educating staff and pupils about protected characteristics , promoting respect and understanding to prevent discrimination and create a safe, inclusive environment for everyone.
- proactively gather and record concerns and intelligence about bullying incidents and issues to effectively develop strategies to prevent bullying from occurring
- actively create “safe spaces” for vulnerable children and young people
- use a variety of techniques to resolve the issues between those who bully and those who have been bullied
- work with other agencies and the wider school community to prevent and tackle concerns
- celebrate success and achievements to promote and build a positive school ethos.

6) Involvement of pupils

We will:

- regularly canvas children and young people’s views on the extent and nature of bullying
- ensure that all pupils know how to express worries and anxieties about bullying

- ensure that all pupils are aware of the range of sanctions which may be applied against those engaging in bullying Involve pupils in anti-bullying campaigns in schools and embedded messages in the wider school curriculum
- publicise the details of help lines and websites
- offer support to pupils who have been bullied and to those who are bullying in order to address the problems they have.
- educate pupils about diversity, inclusion, and the harmful effects of prejudice, to foster respect and **prevent all forms of bullying.**

7) Liaison with parents and carers

We will:

- make sure that key information (including policies and named points of contact) about bullying is available to parents/carers in a variety of formats
- ensure that all parents/carers know who to contact if they are worried about bullying
- ensure all parents/carers know about our complaints procedure and how to use it effectively
- ensure all parents/carers know where to access independent advice about bullying
- work with all parents/carers and the local community to address issues beyond the school gates that give rise to bullying
- support parents to work with the school to role model positive behaviour for pupils, both on and offline.

8) Links with other school policies and practices

This Policy links with other school policies, practices and action plans including:

- Behaviour Policy
- Complaints Policy
- Equalities Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policies
- Confidentiality Policy
- e-Safety (Online Safety) and Acceptable Use Policies (AUPs) • Curriculum Policies such as PSHE and Citizenship.

9) Links to legislation

There are a number of pieces of legislation which set out measures and actions for schools in response to bullying as well as criminal law. These may include:

- The Education and Inspection Act 2006, 2011
- The Equality Act 2010
- The Children Act 1989
- Protection from Harassment Act 1997
- The Malicious Communications Act 1988
- Public Order Act 1986
- The Computer Misuse Act 1990

10) Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of:

- School Governors to take a lead role in monitoring and reviewing this policy.
- Governors, the Headteacher, Senior Managers, Teaching and Non-Teaching staff to be aware of this policy and implement it accordingly.
- the Headteacher to communicate the policy to the school community and to ensure that disciplinary measures are applied fairly, consistently and reasonably.
- Staff to support and uphold the policy
- Parents/carers to support their children and work in partnership with the school • Pupils to abide by the policy.

11) Monitoring & review, policy into practice

The Headteacher will report on a regular basis to the governing body on incidents of bullying and outcomes. The school will ensure that it regularly monitors and evaluates mechanisms to ensure that the policy is being consistently applied. Any issues identified will be incorporated into the school's action planning.

Supporting Organisations and Guidance

- Anti-Bullying Alliance: www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk
- Beat Bullying: www.beatbullying.org
- Childline: www.childline.org.uk
- DfE: "Preventing and Tackling Bullying. Advice for headteachers, staff and governing bodies", and "Supporting children and young people who are bullied: advice for schools" March 2014: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-and-tackling-bullying>
- DfE: "No health without mental health": <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/no-health-without-mental-health-a-cross-government-outcomes-strategy>
- Family Lives: www.familylives.org.uk
- Kidscape: www.kidscape.org.uk
- MindEd: www.minded.org.uk
- NSPCC: www.nspcc.org.uk
- PSHE Association: www.pshe-association.org.uk
- Restorative Justice Council: www.restorativejustice.org.uk
- The Diana Award: www.diana-award.org.uk
- Victim Support: www.victimsupport.org.uk
- Young Minds: www.youngminds.org.uk
- Young Carers: www.youngcarers.net Cyberbullying
- Childnet International: www.childnet.com
- Digizen: www.digizen.org
- Internet Watch Foundation: www.iwf.org.uk
- Think U Know: www.thinkuknow.co.uk

- UK Safer Internet Centre: www.saferinternet.org.uk LGBT
- EACH: www.eachaction.org.uk
- Pace: www.pacehealth.org.uk
- Schools Out: www.schools-out.org.uk
- Stonewall: www.stonewall.org.uk

SEND

- Changing Faces: www.changingfaces.org.uk
- Mencap: www.mencap.org.uk
- DfE: SEND code of practice: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25>

Racism and Hate

- Anne Frank Trust: www.annefrank.org.uk
- Kick it Out: www.kickitout.org
- Report it: www.report-it.org.uk
- Stop Hate: www.stophateuk.org
- Show Racism the Red Card: www.srrc.org/educational

LGBTQ+

- [Just Like Us releases Growing up LGBT+ report on bullying, schools and mental health - Just Like Us](#)
- [Allsorts Youth Project](#)  [LGBT+ Youth Support in Sussex](#)

Additional Content

Dealing with Incidents

The following steps may be taken when dealing with incidents:

- If bullying is suspected or reported, the incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff who has been approached.
- A clear and precise account of the incident will be recorded and given to the head teacher.
- The head teacher will interview all concerned and will record the incident.
- Teachers will be kept informed.
- When responding to cyberbullying concerns, the school will take all available steps to identify the bully, including looking at the school systems, identifying and interviewing possible witnesses, and contacting the service provider and the police, if necessary. The police will need to be involved to enable the service provider to look into the data of another user. The installation of Smoothwall on devices at school will facilitate this.
- Where the bullying takes place outside of the school site then the school will ensure that the concern is investigated and that appropriate action is taken in accordance with the school's behaviour and discipline policy.
- Parents/carers will be kept informed.

- Sanctions will be used as appropriate and in consultation with all parties concerned.
- If necessary and appropriate, the police or other local services will be consulted.

Supporting Pupils

Pupils who have been bullied will be supported by:

- offering an immediate opportunity to discuss the experience with their teacher or a member of staff of their choice.
- being advised to keep a record of the bullying as evidence and discuss how respond to concerns and build resilience as appropriate.
- reassuring the pupil and providing continuous support.
- restoring self-esteem and confidence.
- working with the wider community and local/national organisations to provide further or specialist advice and guidance.
- Pupils who have bullied will be helped by:
 - discussing what happened and establishing the concern and the need to change
 - informing parents/carers to help change the attitude and behaviour of the child
 - providing appropriate education and support
 - requesting content be removed, if online, and reporting account/content to service provider
 - sanctioning in line with school behaviour/discipline policy. This may include official warnings, detentions, removal of privileges, fixed-term and permanent exclusions.
 - speaking with police or local services

Supporting Adults

Adults (staff and parents) who have been bullied or affected will be supported by:

- offering an immediate opportunity to discuss the concern with the designed lead and/or a senior member of staff/headteacher
- being advised to keep a record of the bullying as evidence and discuss how respond to concerns and build resilience as appropriate
- ensuring that the concern is investigated where the bullying takes place outside of the school site, and that appropriate action is taken in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy
- reassuring and offering appropriate support
- working with the wider community and local/national organisations to provide further or specialist advice and guidance
- Adults (staff and parents) who have bullied will be helped by:
 - discussing what happened with a senior member of staff and establishing the concern
 - clarifying the school's official procedures for complaints or concerns
 - requesting content be removed if online, and reporting account/content to service provider
 - instigating disciplinary, civil or legal action

Note

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Behaviour Policy.

Equal Opportunities.

The school is committed to providing equal opportunities for all, in all aspects of school life, regardless of race, faith, gender or capability. We promote self and mutual respect and a caring non-judgmental attitude throughout the school.

Review Framework:

The. policy will be reviewed annually (or sooner in the event of revised legislation or guidance).