



# Bordon Junior School

## Pupils' Anti-Bullying Policy



At Bordon Junior School we believe that all pupils have a right to learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment, without the fear of being bullied. We promote good behaviour. It is made clear that bullying is a form of anti-social behaviour. It is wrong and will not be tolerated.

### What is bullying?

Bullying can be described as being a deliberate act done to cause distress only in order to give a feeling of power, status or 'feel good factor' to the bully.

Bullying can occur through several types of anti-social behaviour. It can be:

- **PHYSICAL** - a child can be physically punched, kicked, hit, spat at, etc.
- **VERBAL** - this can take the form of name calling. It may be directed towards gender, ethnic origin, physical / social disability, personality, etc.
- **EXCLUSION** - a child can be bullied simply by being left out from discussions/activities.
- **DAMAGE TO PROPERTY OR THEFT** - Pupils may have their property damaged or stolen. Physical threats may be used by the bully to make a child hand over property to them.

### What can children do if they are being bullied?

Each term or when incidents occur, class teachers will discuss bullying and reinforce the following strategies:

- Remember that your silence is the greatest weapon.
- Tell yourself that you do not deserve to be bullied and that it is wrong.
- Be proud of who you are. It is good to be an individual.
- Try not to show that you are upset. It is hard, but a bully thrives on someone's fear.
- Stay with a group of friends/people. There is safety in numbers.
- Be assertive – shout "NO!". Walk confidently away. Go straight to a member of staff.
- Fighting back may make things worse.
- It is best to tell an adult you trust straight away. You will get immediate support.
- Teachers will take you seriously and deal with the bullies in a way which will end the bullying and will not make matters worse for you.

### What do you do if you know someone is being bullied?

- Take action! Watching and doing nothing looks as if you are on the side of the bully. It makes the victim feel more unhappy and on their own.
- If you feel you cannot get involved, tell an adult immediately. Teachers will deal with the bully without getting you in to trouble.
- Do not be, or pretend to be, friends with the bully.

### The role of parents / carers

Parents have an important part to play in our anti-bullying policy. We ask parents to:

- Look out for unusual behaviour in your children – for example, they may suddenly not wish to attend school, feel ill regularly, or not complete work to their usual standard.
- Always take an active role in your child's education. Ask how their day has gone, who they have spent time with, etc.
- If you feel your child may be a victim of bullying behaviour, inform the school immediately. Your complaint will be taken seriously and appropriate action will follow.
- If a child has bullied your child, please do not approach that child on the playground or involve an older child to deal with the bully. Please inform the school immediately.
- It is important that you advise your child not to fight back. It can make matters worse.
- Tell your child that it is not their fault that they are being bullied.
- Reinforce the school's policy concerning bullying and make sure your child is not afraid to ask for help.
- If you know your child is involved in bullying, please discuss the issues with them and inform the school. The matter will be dealt with appropriately.

### Strategies for dealing with bullying

The following is a list of actions available to staff depending on the seriousness of the situation. The emphasis is always on a caring, listening approach as bullies are often victims too – that is why they bully.

If bullying is suspected we will:

- Talk to the suspected victim, and any witnesses.
- Identify the bully and talk about what has happened, to discover why they became involved.
- Make it clear that bullying is not tolerated at Bordon Junior School
- If the bully owns up then sanctions, procedures outlined in the school's Behaviour Policy, will be followed.
- An additional sanction may be to arrange for a child to be removed from the school premises.
- Incidents of bullying are recorded as such in a School Incident Log.
- If the suspected bully does not own up, the school will investigate further. If it is clear that the suspected bully is lying, then sanctions, as above, will be followed.
- Incidents will be monitored to ensure that no repetition occurs. Follow-up findings will be recorded in the monitoring section of the School Incident Log.

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This policy is reviewed annually by staff, governors and pupils (through meetings of Young Governors).

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