



## Junction Farm Anti-Bullying Policy

**Reviewed:** September 2019

**Next Review:** September 2021

At Junction Farm Primary 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 occurs when any of the following are carried out Several Times On Purpose (**STOP**). It is described as being a deliberate act done to cause distress solely in order to give a feeling of power, status or other gratification to the bully.

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

a) Physical:

A child can be physically punched, kicked, hit, spat at, etc.

b) Verbal:

This can take the form of name calling. It may be directed towards gender, ethnic origin, physical/social disability, personality, etc.

c) Exclusion:

A child can be bullied simply by being excluded from discussions/activities.

d) Damage to Property or Theft:

Pupils may have their property damaged or stolen. Physical threats may be used by the bully in order that the pupil hands over property to them.

e) Social Media:

Name calling via text messages or social networking sites.

### **What Can Children Do If They Are Being Bullied?**

Each term there will be an anti-bullying (friendship) assembly. Throughout each term and if incidents occur; class teachers will discuss bullying and reinforce the following strategies:

a) Remember that your silence is the bully's greatest weapon.

b) Tell yourself that you do not deserve to be bullied and that it is wrong.

c) Be proud of who you are. It is good to be individual.

d) If you are upset seek support from an adult.

e) Be assertive – say “Stop it, I don’t like it!”. Walk confidently away. Go straight to a teacher or



member of staff.

f) Fighting back may make things worse.

g) Generally it is best to tell an adult straight away. You will get immediate support.

h) Teachers will take you seriously and will deal with the bullies in a way which will end the bullying and will not make things worse for you.

i) As part of Rights Respecting Schools award Children have the right to attend school in a safe environment.

### **What do you do if You Know Someone Is Being Bullied?**

a) 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.

b) If you feel you cannot get involved, tell an adult immediately. Teachers will deal with the bully without getting you into trouble.

### **Role Of Parents**

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

a) 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.

b) Always take an active role in your child's education. Be positive and enquire how well their day has gone, who they have spent their time with, etc.

c) If you feel your child may be a victim of bullying behaviour, inform school immediately. Your complaint will be taken seriously and appropriate action will follow.

d) 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 school immediately.

e) It is important that you advise your child not to fight back. It can make matters worse!

f) Tell your child that it is not their fault that they are being bullied.

g) Reinforce the school's policy concerning bullying and make sure your child is not afraid to ask for help.

h) If you know your child is involved in bullying, please discuss the issues with them and inform 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 perceived 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:

- a) Talk to the suspected victim, and any witnesses.
- b) Identify the bully and talk about what has happened, to discover why they became involved. Make it clear that bullying is not tolerated at Junction Farm.
- c) If the bully owns up then sanctions procedures outlined in the Behaviour Policy will be followed.
- d) Incidents of serious or sustained bullying will be recorded in the school incident log (CPOMS).
- e) Incidents of bullying will be fully investigated and the situation monitored to ensure no repetition. Both parties will be supported throughout the process.

This policy should be used alongside the school behaviour policy.