Respectful Relationships and Anti-Bullying Statement for Children & Young People

Broomlands Primary School

Scottish Borders Council Vision

It is our vision that all learning establishments are safe, respectful and nurturing environments where bullying behaviour is never acceptable. It is therefore critical that those who play a role in the lives of children and young people in the Scottish Borders are equipped to prevent and respond effectively to incidents of bullying behaviour. Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) in the Scottish Borders ensures that the child and their family are at the centre of policy and practice and that the views of the child, young person and their parents/carers are sought, listened to and taken into account when decisions are being made.

Policy Statement Purpose

At Broomlands Primary School, we are committed to creating a safe, happy, inclusive and nurturing environment where every child feels valued, respected and able to succeed. Our school community is built upon positive relationships, high expectations, kindness, belonging and respect for everyone. Our core values of courage, compassion and connection underpin this.

This document builds on the Scottish Borders Council Respectful Relationships and Anti-Bullying Policy and outlines the approaches undertaken in Broomlands Primary School to provide guidance to children, young people, staff and parents/carers on the prevention and management of bullying behaviour.

Our aim is to ensure that Broomlands Primary School is a place where children feel:

- Safe
- Included
- Respected
- Listened to
- Supported to be themselves

Bullying behaviour is never acceptable and will always be taken seriously.

Definition of Bullying

"Bullying is face-to-face and/or online behaviour which impacts on a person's sense of physical and emotional safety, their capacity to feel in control of their life and their ability to respond effectively to the situation they are in."

"The behaviour does not need to be repeated, or intended to cause harm, for it to have an impact. Bullying behaviour can be physical, emotional or verbal and can cause people to feel hurt, threatened, frightened and left out."

Definition of Respectful Relationships

A Respectful Relationship is one based upon mutual trust, honesty, kindness, consideration and fairness, bringing out the best in those involved.

Raising Awareness and Prevention

Staff & Volunteers

In addition to promoting and role-modelling respectful relationships and positive behaviour, all staff and volunteers with responsibility for children and young people will engage in relevant anti-bullying training and professional learning, including:

- Why address bullying?
- Defining and recognising bullying behaviour.
- Preventing bullying through policy and practice.
- Responding effectively to bullying incidents.
- Restorative and nurturing approaches.
- Children's rights and inclusion.
- Online safety and digital wellbeing.

Pupils

At Broomlands Primary School, we actively and openly talk about respectful relationships, inclusion and bullying behaviour. We believe that prevention is more effective than intervention alone. Strategies and resources used to raise awareness and prevent bullying include:

- Health and Wellbeing learning across all stages.
- Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood (RSHP) education.
- Rights Respecting Schools learning linked to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Whole-school assemblies focused on kindness, inclusion and community.
- Use of the Glasgow Motivation & Wellbeing Tool to identify and tackle issues around bullying.
- Circle time, restorative conversations and class discussions.
- Learning linked to our school values and curriculum rationale.
- Opportunities for pupil voice through Pupil Voice Groups and leadership groups.
- Digital citizenship and online safety lessons.
- Buddying and mentoring opportunities between P7 and P1 pupils.
- Celebration of diversity, achievement and individual strengths.
- Nurture-based approaches that support emotional wellbeing and positive relationships.
- Opportunities for collaborative learning, play and outdoor learning, helping children build positive relationships and resilience.

Recording and Monitoring Strategies - At Broomlands Primary School, incidents of bullying behaviour are recorded and monitored in accordance with Scottish Borders Council guidance. All reported concerns are:

- Listened to carefully.
- Investigated sensitively and fairly.
- Recorded appropriately, using the Seemis Bullying & Equalities Module.

- Monitored over time.
- Followed up to ensure positive outcomes for all children involved.

Reporting and Feeding Back About Bullying Incidents

Children, staff and parents/carers will be made aware of confidential and safe ways to report concerns.

Ways for Pupils to Report Bullying Behaviour - Children will always be taken seriously when they raise a concern. Children can:

- Speak to their class teacher or any trusted adult in school.
- Speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team.
- Speak to a Support for Learning teacher or support assistant.
- Ask a friend to help them tell an adult.
- Ask a parent/carer to contact the school.
- Use class check-ins, wellbeing discussions or other pupil voice opportunities to share concerns.
- Use a Worry-Box or similar, if relevant.
- Report concerns about online bullying to a trusted adult immediately.

Ways for Parents/Carers to Report Bullying Behaviour - Parents/carers can:

- Contact their child's class teacher.
- Contact the Headteacher or a member of the Senior Leadership Team.
- Telephone the school office or contact the school by email, Eduspot or similar
- Arrange a meeting with school staff.
- Face-to-face at pick-up or drop-off.
- Raise concerns during planned parent meetings.

Parents/carers will be kept informed of actions taken and progress made, wherever appropriate.

Ways for Staff to Report Bullying Behaviour - Staff can:

- Follow school child protection procedures.
- Report incidents to the Senior Leadership Team.
- Record incidents through SEEMIS in line with SBC guidance.
- Participate in planning and review meetings.
- Contribute to ongoing monitoring and support arrangements.

Leadership and Responsibility - The Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team are responsible for ensuring:

- All reports are responded to appropriately.
- Incidents are recorded and monitored.
- Children and families receive support.
- Communication is clear and timely.
- Staff are supported to implement the policy consistently.
- The views of children and families help shape future practice.

Children's Views on Respectful Relationships - Our children told us that respectful relationships are important because:

- *"You need to have patience, respect and manners."*
- *"Being with friends helps us learn well."*
- *"I can get help from people I know."*
- *"Kindness, manners and teamwork are important for our future."*
- *"Every child should get the chance to experience a fun time at school and not get bullied."*
- *"Good relationships help me feel safe and relaxed which helps me enjoy learning."*
- *"It's okay to ask for help if something is worrying you."*

Parents' Views on Respectful Relationships - Our parents and carers told us that they value:

- *"Children developing compassion for others and resilience of how to manage themselves."*
- *"Providing children with the confidence and learning to be a considerate person."*
- *"School should support children to get a good education with respect and compassion for others and lasting friendships."*
- *Broomlands has staff who are approachable, genuinely care about the development of the children and provide good role models for them."*
- *"Inclusion, belonging and learning."*
- *"A warm, friendly and caring atmosphere".*
- *"The thing I value most about Broomlands is the dedication of staff. Children are treated respectfully and as individuals."*

Statement Review - This statement will be reviewed regularly in consultation with:

- Children and young people.
- Parents and carers.
- Staff.
- Wider partners and stakeholders.

The views of our community will continue to shape how we promote respectful relationships and respond to bullying behaviour at Broomlands Primary School.

Headteacher: *Adam Lindsay*

Review Date: October 2026
Next Review: October 2029