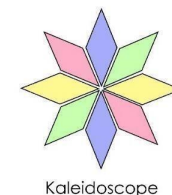


Kaleidoscope

Kaleidoscope School: Anti-Bullying Policy

WE BELIEVE YOU CAN

Policy Date: January 2025
Date of next review: January 2026



Introduction

All of the students have come to us because they are experiencing difficulties in accessing full-time mainstream school; they may have greater difficulty than other students with social understanding and communication. Therefore, it is essential that this policy be implemented consistently to support all students and maintain physical, social and emotional development. It is important to note that an individual's behaviour at school towards another pupil may be rooted in a physical or mental health need rather than in a need to bully them. For the individual who is on the receiving end of unwanted behaviour the result may be the same.

The Problem

Bullying by its very nature is insidious because children and young people are likely to feel that "telling" will only make matters worse for themselves and leave them even more at the mercy of the bully/bullies.

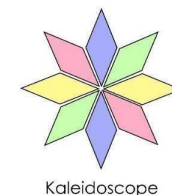
Any strategy for dealing with bullying must ensure that it protects the child from being bullied. For example, it is more appropriate for a member of staff to approach the bully on the basis "We know what is going on" rather than to say that it was the victim who brought the matter to their notice.

Definition

At the Kaleidoscope School we believe that bullying is inappropriate behaviour from an individual pupil or group of pupils towards another pupil which is deliberate, repeated over time and hard to defend against.

It can take the form of physical actions, words or being excluded from a group for various improper reasons.

Examples of inappropriate bullying behaviour that have been identified include:



- Hitting or punching another child
- Kicking
- Spitting
- Spoiling someone else's belongings
- Calling names
- Teasing
- Giving nasty looks
- Making racist, sexist and/or homophobic remarks
- Making remarks about someone's disability
- Spreading rumours
- Not letting someone join in a game
- Not talking to someone or getting other people not to talk to an individual

Cyber Bullying

Virtual Bullying

With more and more of us using email and mobile phones and other electronic devices, bullying does not have to happen in person. Silent phone calls or abusive texts, emails and social networking sites can be just as distressing as being bullied face to face.

Cyber Bullying

This is sending or posting harmful or cruel text or images using the internet or other digital communication devices.

How we as a school deal with Cyber Bullying:

- Staff – all incidences should be reported to the designated safeguarding lead (DSL/DDSL) and/or headteacher, who will then ensure the person being bullied is being supported, take responsibility for investigating and managing the incident and for contacting the police if appropriate.



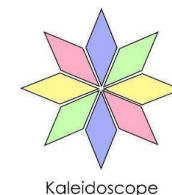
Examples of cyber bullying:

- Text message bullying
- Picture/video-clip bullying via mobile phone cameras
- Phone call bullying via mobile phone
- Email bullying
- Chat room bullying
- Bullying through instant messaging (IM)
- Bullying via websites

Emotional and physical symptoms linked to bullying.

Emotional:

- Lost confidence
- Loss of self-esteem
- Irritability
- Aggression
- Anxiety
- Panic attacks
- Depression
- Suicidal thoughts



Physical:

- Sleeplessness
- Nausea
- Shaking
- Heart racing
- Laziness
- Skin complaints
- Stomach aches
- Migraine and headaches

It is important that staff take the above symptoms as possible indicators of bullying, but equally important to remember that some of these signs can also be symptoms of physical or mental health needs. Therefore, it is important that staff raise and appropriately record any concerns they have.

Bullying and Disability

Pupils with physical or mental health needs are at risk of having their body language and behaviour misinterpreted by other children and young people whilst out in the community.

This can lead them into difficulties as others may focus on their differences or react to the individual's behaviours.

Examples of behaviour:

- Staring at other people who interest them
- Answering questions in the "wrong way"
- Standing too close to other people
- Touching other people
- Muttering or talking to other people

- Not being able to walk away when someone wanted to argue with them
- Not being able to verbalise a response when questioned



The school's response to bullying

Staff vigilance is the most potent deterrent against bullying. Children and young people who bully will then know that it will be dealt with, and the victims of bullying will have confidence for the same reason.

It is therefore important that at we create a culture and communication network where children and young people are easily able to confide to staff if they are being bullied.

The above is addressed through lessons or 1:1 time with class staff and actions that follows an incident.

All staff will all have access to the anti-bullying policy, receive training to raise awareness of the issue and within the classroom setting antibullying work will be addressed via a PSHE lessons.

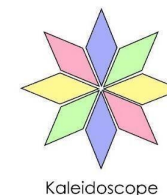
It is important to note that collectively the Kaleidoscope School believe that both the bullied and the bully are viewed as in need of support. Although some bullying is an outcome of students' lack of empathy and poor social understanding it still must be dealt with as bullying. The bully needs to be told that his / her behaviour is unacceptable because it is bullying and the victim needs supporting.

When an incident of bullying has occurred, staff are to complete a BIF (Behaviour incident form) and My Concern (if required). This will allow us to monitor the issue very closely and to respond to parental and staff concerns.

When staff are confronting a bully or bullies it is important that they try to include the following key features into their work:

- Be absolutely certain about the known facts.
- Confront the "bully" with the allegations.
- Make it clear that the behaviour is unacceptable.
- If more than 1 'bully', they must be spoken to separately (if appropriate)
- Follow up to check that behaviour has ceased.

Links with other school policies and practices



This policy links with a number of other school policies, practices and action plans including:

- Behaviour policy
- Child protection and Safeguarding policy
- Online safety
- Curriculum policies, such as PSHE
- Child-on-Child abuse, including Child on Child Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment policy

All policies are available on our in-house system, school website or copies can be requested from the school office.

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 and civil law. These may include (but are not limited to):
- The Education and Inspection Act 2006, 2011
- The Equality Act 2010
- The Children Act 1989
- The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 (if appropriate)
- Protection from Harassment Act 1997
- The Malicious Communications Act 1988
- Public Order Act 1986

Useful links and supporting organisations

- Anti-Bullying Alliance: www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk
- Childline: www.childline.org.uk
- Family Lives: www.familylives.org.uk



- Kidscape: www.kidscape.org.uk
- MindEd: www.minded.org.uk
- NSPCC: www.nspcc.org.uk
- The BIG Award: www.bullyinginterventiongroup.co.uk/index.php
- 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
- The Restorative Justice Council: www.restorativejustice.org.uk/restorative-practiceschools

SEND

- Changing Faces: www.changingfaces.org.uk
- Mencap: www.mencap.org.uk
- Anti-Bullying Alliance Cyberbullying and children and young people with SEN and disabilities: www.cafamily.org.uk/media/750755/cyberbullying_and_send__module_final.pdf
- DfE: SEND code of practice: www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-ofpractice-0-to-25

Cyberbullying

- Childnet International: www.childnet.com
- Internet Watch Foundation: www.iwf.org.uk
- Think U Know: www.thinkuknow.co.uk
- UK Safer Internet Centre: www.saferinternet.org.uk

- The UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS) www.gov.uk/government/groups/uk-council-for-child-internet-safety-ukccis

