



# SWANAGE PRIMARY ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Reviewed: January 2026  
Next Review: January 2029

In reviewing this policy and making decisions about bullying in school due consideration has been given to equality legislation.

This Policy is to be read in conjunction with:

- Child Protection Policy
- E-Safety Policy
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025
- Prevent Duty, Departmental Advice for Schools and Childcare providers

## Statement of Intent

At Swanage Primary School, we are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. If bullying does occur, all pupils should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a *TELLING* school. This means that *anyone* who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff.

## Objectives of this Policy

- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- All governors and teaching and non-teaching staff should know what the school policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported.
- All pupils and parents should know what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises.
- As a school we take bullying seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Our community needs to have a clear understanding that bullying will not be tolerated at Swanage Primary School

## What Is Bullying?

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

Bullying can be:

Emotional	being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures)
Physical	pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
Racist	racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
Sexual	unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
Homophobic	because of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality
Verbal	name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
Cyber	All areas of internet, such as email & internet chat room misuse Mobile threats by text messaging & calls Misuse of associated technology, i.e. camera & video facilities

### **Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying?**

At Swanage Primary School, everybody has the right to be treated with respect and to be safe at school. Pupils who are bullying need to understand their responsibilities towards others and to learn different ways of behaving.

All our school staff are be alert to the signs of bullying and act promptly and firmly against it in accordance with school policy.

### **Signs and Symptoms**

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that he or she is being bullied. All staff should be aware of these possible signs and that they should investigate if a child:

- is unwilling to go to school
- becomes withdrawn, anxious, or lacking in confidence
- starts stammering
- attempts or threatens suicide or runs away
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- feels ill in the morning
- begins to do poorly in school work
- comes home with clothes torn or books damaged
- has possessions which are damaged or " go missing"
- asks for money or starts stealing money (to pay bully)
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- is bullying other children or siblings
- stops eating
- is frightened to say what's wrong
- gives improbable excuses for any of the above
- is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone
- is nervous & jumpy when a cyber message is received

These signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated

### **Prevention**

We will use various methods for helping children to prevent bullying. As and when appropriate, these may include:

- writing a set of class rules
- developing a behaviour contract
- writing stories or poems or drawing pictures about bullying

- reading stories about bullying or having them read to a class or assembly
- making up role-plays
- having discussions about bullying and why it matters
- participation in 'Friendship Week'
- assembly stories and themes
- Jigsaw PSHE lessons and Circle Time
- E-safety curriculum

### **Implementation**

The following steps will 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 account of the incident will be recorded and given to the Headteacher
- The Headteacher will interview all concerned and will record the incident
- Teachers will be kept informed and if it persists all staff will be informed
- Parents/carers of all parties will be kept informed at every stage
- Punitive measures will be used in line with the school's 'Behaviour Policy' and in consultation will all parties concerned.
- A log of all incidents is maintained (a separate log is maintained of racist incidents)

### ***Pupils***

Pupils who have been bullied will be supported by:

- offering an immediate opportunity to discuss the experience with their teacher or member of staff of their choice
- reassuring the pupil
- offering continuous support
- restoring self-esteem and confidence.

Pupils who have bullied will be helped by:

- discussing what happened
- discovering why the pupil became involved
- establishing the wrong-doing and need to change
- informing parents or carers to help change the attitude of the pupil.

The following disciplinary steps can be taken:

- genuine apologies can be sought
- removal of break-time privileges
- exclusion from class or school events
- attendance at Octopus club
- minor fixed-term exclusion
- major fixed-term exclusion
- permanent exclusion

If possible and appropriate, we will make every effort to reconcile the pupils.

After the incident / incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place. Logs of all incidents are maintained.