

Written by students for students, staff and parents

Statement of Intent

At Stokesley School we want to make a community where everyone feels safe and can enjoy being at school. We recognise that bullying happens and it must be taken seriously. Bullying affects everyone - pupils, parents and teachers, so we need to work together to combat bullies and bullying. This policy is designed to help us deal more effectively with bullying.

Bullying is

Any actions that make a person feel upset, unhappy, vulnerable, inadequate, isolated or frightened. It can be physical, verbal or by electronic media (cyber bullying). It can be Racial, Sexual or Homophobic.

Bullying is deliberate, though we accept that unintentional or thoughtless actions can be equally upsetting for the victim, and need to be dealt with equally urgently.

Examples of bullying behaviour include:

- Insults
- Writing untruthful things about someone
- Tormenting
- Physical violence
- Being unfriendly
- Making threats
- Teasing
- Harassment
- Using cruel nicknames
- Spreading rumours
- Taking or hiding property
- Using mobiles or computers to leave hurtful messages or pictures

What can we all do as a school community?

Prevent bullying by:

- Creating a safe environment where people can move around without feeling threatened
- Building each other's confidence by treating everyone with respect
- Accepting everyone's differences

Support victims by:

- Telling someone when you know there is bullying
- Being a good friend. Victims may not feel at their best or be in the best of moods, and will need time, patience and privacy
- Providing place of calm

Ensure that everyone knows what to do about bullying by:

- Regularly promoting the anti bullying policy and discussing issues related to bullying during tutorial
- Promoting the anti-bullying message through campaigns and assemblies
- Ensuring staff are trained to recognise the signs and symptoms of bullying and to know what to do about them

STOKESLEY SCHOOL, STATION ROAD, STOKESLEY,
NORTH YORKSHIRE TS9 5AL

www.stokesleyschool.org

01642 710050



ARETÉ
LEARNING
TRUST
FOUNDING
MEMBER

What can you do if you are being bullied?

You don't have to accept being bullied. It is not your fault. You can find help and support from the following:

- Your Form Tutor or Head of House
- Any adult in the school – this might be a teacher or a member of the support staff. They will listen, and advise you what to do
- A friend, or family member – they can talk to your Head of House for you if you prefer
- The VLE - There is a bullying page where you can find advice, and submit a message to your Head of House from your home or school computer

Why it is important to tell if you know there is bullying

It will make you feel better when you tell someone. If you do not tell someone:

- It is difficult for anyone to help
- The bullying may carry on and get worse
- The bully could bully other people
- The bully would not get help to change their behaviour

What will happen when you tell?

- You will get a chance to tell the whole story to someone you trust
- We will arrange for you to be in places where you feel safe from bullying and with people you feel happy to be with
- We will work with you to build up your confidence
- You will be consulted about how to stop the bullying. Usually the bullies don't need to find out you have told someone until you are ready

What will happen to someone who is bullying?

All actions that are taken are designed to make the bullying stop

- First of all the bully needs to understand how much harm they are causing and STOP THE BULLYING IMMEDIATELY
- Bullies will be given help to learn different ways of behaving – this may include apologising to the victim, but victims will not be forced into this situation
- Serious and persistent bullying will be punished severely. In very serious cases the police may become involved
- The bully's parents will be informed

What can you do to help as a parent?

When someone is being bullied, their parents can help by:

- Being calm
- Listening
- Try to find out the facts as well as the feelings
- Contact the tutor to discuss the problem – your concerns will be taken seriously

----- End of Policy -----