



Your Gateway to Success  
A personalised journey



# Shevington High School

## ANTI BULLYING POLICY

<b>DATE ACCEPTED:</b>	<b>29 March 2017</b>
<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	<b>Full Governors</b>
<b>DATE FOR NEXT REVIEW:</b>	<b>March 2018</b>

### **SHEVINGTON HIGH SCHOOL**

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facebook.com/shevingtonhigh



twitter.com/shevingtonhigh

**Shevington High School is committed to preventing all forms of bullying taking place. We will work hard to ensure that bullying plays no part in our community by dealing with all reported incidents promptly.**

**Students Can Report Bullying on the school website**

[www.keepsafe@shevingtonhigh.org.uk](mailto:www.keepsafe@shevingtonhigh.org.uk)

**We believe that:**

- Students have a right to learn free from intimidation and fear.
- We will not tolerate bullying behaviour.
- Bullied students will be listened to.
- Reported incidents will be taken seriously and thoroughly investigated.

**What is Bullying?**

Bullying is where someone hurts you either physically, by hitting or kicking you, or verbally by calling you names or teasing you.

Bullying can be done in a number of ways. Someone might be bullying you if they are:

- Calling you names
- Spreading lies about you
- Teasing you
- Hitting or kicking you and causing you physical pain
- Pushing or pulling you about
- Taking your money or possessions
- Repeatedly leaving you out or excluding you
- Threatening or intimidating you
- Texting you horrible messages
- Filming or taking photos on their mobile phones and spreading it about
- Sending you horrible emails or messages on Facebook and other social networking websites.

There are other types of more specific bullying.

**Homophobic bullying**

Somebody may bully you if you are of a different sexual orientation to them, for example someone straight might bully you if you are gay and call you 'gay' as an insult. Students can also call 'straight' students 'gay' as an insult.

**Racist bullying**

People may bully you because of the colour of your skin so would call you horrible names linked to your skin colour.

## **Sizeist bullying**

Someone may bully you because of your size, calling you 'fat', 'skinny', 'tall' or small as an insult.

## **Sexist bullying**

People bully you for being the opposite sex, calling you 'weak' if you are a girl for example.

People may also bully you if you are different to them, if you look different and have a different colour hair or wear glasses. People sometimes bully other people from where they come from or their social class so may call you a 'chav' or a 'snob'. People also bully other people if they are not as intelligent as them – or if they are more intelligent than them. Religion and Political beliefs can also form bullying.

Anyone can be bullied. Sometimes people pick on something that makes you different to everyone else or if you wear different clothes. Sometimes there is no particular reason at all for someone to bully you. Sometimes the bullying is a one-off. Other times, someone can bully someone else for a long period of time.

## **Bullying is NOT:**

Excluding someone-It is not considered bullying if children exclude someone on the playground now and then or don't invite someone to a party. Repeated and deliberate exclusion, however, can be bullying.

Disliking someone-Children may verbally or nonverbally communicate their dislike of another child. This is okay, as long as they don't start rumors or verbally abuse the other child.

Accidental physical harm - A child might unintentionally bump into or trip another child. This is not bullying if it is not deliberate.

Arguments-We all argue, and arguments will inevitably happen at school

**Bullying will not** be tolerated at Shevington High School. Staff are accessible, they will listen carefully and sympathetically to student concerns, they will take into account the students' own views on how best to help them, and they will initiate an appropriate course of action for all students involved. The parent/guardian of the victim and the bully will be informed

## **Procedures**

- Pupils or parents should be encouraged to report bullying to any trusted adult for example, Form Tutor, Pastoral Tutor, Head of Year or a member of teaching staff.
- Pupils will be taken seriously at all times
- Information will be dealt with sensitively
- Appropriate action will be taken as soon as possible
- The member of staff will ensure that the young person is safe
- Details will be recorded accurately
- The victim will be kept informed of the school's action
- The situation will be monitored
- Parents/Carers will be kept informed where appropriate
- Appropriate action will be taken. Action could include restorative justice, sanctions in line with the Whole School Behaviour for Learning Policy

## **Bullying Outside School Premises**

Headteachers have a specific statutory power to discipline pupils for poor behaviour outside of the school premises. Section 89 (5) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 gives Head Teachers the power to regulate pupils' conduct when they are not on school premises and are not under the lawful control or charge of a member of school staff. This can relate to any bullying incident occurring off the school premises, such as on school or public transport, outside the local shops, in town or village centre or cyber bullying.

Where bullying outside school is reported to school staff, it will be investigated and acted on as appropriate.

## **The Responsibilities of Staff**

Our staff will

- Foster in our students' self-esteem, self-respect and respect for others
- Demonstrate by example the high standards of personal and social behaviour we expect of our students.
- Discuss bullying during form time, so that every student learns about the damage it causes to both the child who is bullied and to the bully and the importance of telling a teacher about bullying when it happens.
- Be alert to signs of distress and other possible indications of bullying.
- Listen to children who have been bullied, take what they say seriously and act to support and protect them.
- Report suspected cases of bullying immediately to pastoral staff.
- Deal with observed instances of bullying promptly and effectively, in accordance with agreed procedures.

## **Prevention**

- Our school will work together to raise awareness and understanding of all forms of bullying
- Students will be provided with a variety of opportunities to develop skills for addressing bullying behaviour, through assemblies, the curriculum and PD.
- All staff will be trained to deal with bullying incidents confidently

**Young People will be:**

- Regularly asked for their views on the extent and nature of bullying
- Made aware of the procedures that will be followed and if necessary sanctions that could be applied
- Encouraged to be involved in contributing to policy

**Advice for Parent/Guardian**

Watch out for signs of distress or unusual behaviour in your child, which might be evidence of bullying. Advise your child(ren) to report any bullying to their Personal Tutor, Head of Year or subject teacher and explain the implications of allowing the bullying to continue unchecked, for themselves and for others.

- Advise your child not to retaliate violently to any form of bullying;
- Be sympathetic and supportive towards your child and reassure them that appropriate action will be taken;
- Inform the school of any suspected bullying, even if your child are not involved.

**Advice for Students Being Bullied**

We expect our students to:

- Refrain from becoming involved in any kind of bullying, even at the risk of incurring temporary unpopularity.
- Intervene to protect the student who is being bullied, unless it is unsafe to do so.
- Report to a member of staff any witnessed or suspected instances of bullying, to dispel any climate of secrecy and help to prevent further instances.

If you are being bullied:

- Try to stay calm and look as confident as you are able;
- Get away from the situation;
- Tell a friend/another student;
- Tell an adult.

After you have been bullied:

- Don't blame yourself;
- Tell a teacher or an adult in the school;
- Tell your family;
- If you are scared to tell an adult ask a friend to go with you;
- To prevent problems with cyber bullying be careful to whom you give your phone number, internet and social website details.