Anti-Bullying Policy 2026-27
St. Michael in the Hamlet Primary School

We have written our Anti-Bullying Policy in line with our school vision



S.M.I.T.H

Safe, **M**otivational, **I**nclusive, a **T**eam and **H**appy

Our vision was written with ideas that were generated from our pupils, our staff, our governors and our parents.
From our key aims you can see how we as a school community endeavour to promote and ethos for all children to strive and achieve without anxiety, concern or apprehension.

Definition

Deliberate behaviour, repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another person physically or emotionally.

Bullying can take many forms, including:

- Physical bullying (hitting, pushing, damaging property)
- Verbal bullying (name-calling, insults, threats)
- Emotional or social bullying (excluding others, spreading rumours)
- Cyberbullying (using phones, social media, gaming or messaging platforms to hurt others)
- Prejudice-based bullying relating to:
    - race or ethnicity
    - religion or belief
    - disability or special educational needs
    - gender
    - sexual orientation
    - family circumstances

A one-off disagreement or unkind act will be dealt with seriously but may not necessarily constitute bullying.

Intent

In St. Michael in the Hamlet, we aim to tackle bullying by:

- Trying to prevent it from happening in the first place
- Tackling it consistently, fairly and effectively when it does happen

How the School Deals with Bullying:

Bullying involves 3 groups of people

- the bully,
- the person being bullied, and
- the witnesses of the bullying

This policy takes account of all 3 groups.

Implementation

The procedure outlined in the School Behaviour Policy is followed where appropriate.

An ethos, where 'telling' on bullying is the norm, is fostered. We understand why children who are bullied don't tell and make it more possible for them to do so.

We educate the children through:

- Regular assemblies on anti-bullying inc. cyber bullying
- Talking about bullying in circle time
- Discussing the issue with the buddies and the School Council

All children are given clear strategies to help them in the event of being bullied. This involves telling a friend, a parent or a teacher. The same applies to the witnesses of bullying. There are several options open to them to make bullying less likely. They can:

- Tell an adult.
- Challenge the bullies (in certain circumstances).
- 'Scoop up' the child being bullied ("Come on, you're needed in our game, now").
- Talk to others.
- Be kind to the person experiencing bullying.

Reporting Bullying

Children are encouraged to tell:

- A teacher.
- A learning support assistant.
- A parent or carer.
- A trusted adult in school.
- A friend who can help them seek support.

Parents and carers are encouraged to contact school promptly if they have concerns.

Responding to incidents of bullying

When concerns are raised, staff will:

1. Listen carefully to all children involved.
2. Investigate the incident.
3. Record concerns where appropriate.
4. Inform parents/carers when necessary.
5. Provide support for the child experiencing bullying.
6. Work with the child displaying bullying behaviour to improve future conduct.
7. Apply consequences in line with the Behaviour Policy where appropriate.
8. Monitor the situation to ensure the behaviour has stopped.

Support for the children

Children with SEND may face additional barriers in recognising, communicating, or reporting bullying. Staff will take appropriate and proactive measures to ensure that all children, regardless of their communication needs or other barriers, are provided with reasonable adjustments and support to enable them to express concerns and report bullying safely and effectively.

Children experiencing bullying will receive:

- Reassurance and emotional support.
- Opportunities to talk about their feelings.
- Support from trusted adults.
- Ongoing monitoring.

Children displaying bullying behaviours will receive:

- Clear explanations about the impact of their actions.
- Opportunities to repair relationships where appropriate.
- Support to develop empathy and positive behaviour.
- Consequences in accordance with the Behaviour Policy.

Impact

How we create a **SAFE** School:

- Consult with all key stakeholders.
- Eliminate places where bullying might take place.
- Encourage teachers and assistants to be vigilant.
- Treat all incidents of unkind behaviour, however minor, with equal importance as these might develop into bullying.
- Provide opportunities (listed above) where children talk about their fears and feelings.

Parents'/Carers' Role:

To be aware of the School's Anti-Bullying Policy and procedures and to support it by reminding their children of the appropriate conduct. To report to the School any incidents of unkind behaviour towards their child.

This policy is informed by:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE)
- The Equality Act 2010
- Preventing and Tackling Bullying (DfE)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children

Reviewed: October 2026
Next review date: October 2027

