

**St Mary's and Our Lady of Grace
Catholic Academies
Anti Bullying Policy
Written by the School Councils**



Our Vision

*“Through the strength of God’s love and the power
of prayer*

*We are guided to do whatever He tells us. Many
hearts,*

*one accord, growing and learning together for life to
build the kingdom of God.”*

(School Mission Statement)

What we believe about bullying

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.

What Is Bullying?

Bullying is hurting another person deliberately and persistently. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

What forms does bullying take?

- Name calling - (including using bad language);
- Physical pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence;
- Damaging or taking other people's property;
- Persistent mental cruelty;
- Racist remarks;
- Spreading rumours;
- Teasing;
- Not allowing others to play with you;
- Discrimination;
- Hurting feelings;
- Cyber bullying - email, internet and mobile phone.

Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying and STOP Bullying?

- Bullying hurts;
- Bullying ruins lives;
- No one deserves to be a victim of bullying;
- Everybody has the right to be treated with respect;
- So that people will know what to do and bullying can be dealt with;
- The school will be a better place;
- To make our school a safer place;
- To stop people being bullied and help the bullies become better people;
- So that everyone is confident about school.

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;
- Bullying will not be tolerated;
- Everyone needs to take responsibility for bullying.

Signs and Symptoms

We think that children may indicate by signs or behaviour that he or she is being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and that they should investigate if a child:

- Is frightened of walking to or from school;
- Doesn't want to come to school;
- Is alone all the time;
- Not doing well in lessons;
- Doesn't want to talk to anyone;
- Is aggressive;
- Shows unusual behaviour;
- Appears depressed;
- Becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence;

- Feels ill in the morning;
- Has possessions which are damaged or "go missing";
- Has unexplained cuts or bruises;
- Is bullying other children or siblings;
- Stops eating;
- Is frightened to say what's wrong.

What do we do at St. Mary's and Our Lady of Grace to prevent bullying?

- School Council Anti bullying Policy;
- Class / School / Playground Rules;
- Displays;
- Congratulations Assembly to make children feel confident;
- Certificates, housepoints and stickers;
- Achievement points for politeness and good behaviour;
- Friendship Stop;
- PSHE lessons (Including RSE)
- Circle Time;
- Work and activities during Anti-Bullying Week;
- Playground Leaders.

What happens at our school if bullying is discovered?

It is important to tell someone so that the school can help. Report bullying incidents to staff, all incidents will go to a senior member of staff.

At St. Mary's:

Mrs Rathbone / Mrs Statham

Safeguarding Leader: Mrs Scarlett

Foundation Stage - Mrs Statham

KS1 - Mrs Scattergood

KS2 - Mr Zoumides

At Our Lady of Grace:

Mrs Rathbone or Mrs Stonier

Safeguarding Leader: Mrs Scarlett

The staff will fill in a form or ask you to write down what has happened. This then is passed onto Mrs Rathbone, Mrs Statham or Mrs Stonier. We

will speak to all the children involved and talk to them about how they are feeling and ask them to listen to each other and try to reach a way forward. In serious cases parents should be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem. If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted by the Principle. We want to see people doing the bullying punished so that everyone can understand that bullying is serious but want support for them too so that they can understand their feelings and change their behaviour.

What to do if you are being bullied?

- Walk away;
- Always tell someone;
- Use the Sharp system
- Remember you are not alone;
- If you see someone being bullied, try and help but do not get involved, tell someone;
- Ask the bully to stop.

A Message to those who are bullied.

We promise to do our best to help in all different ways, to stop you from feeling alone. We will try to treat each other fairly and kindly. We want to stamp out bullying.

A Message to the bullies.

We will work together to stamp out bullying!
We will all work together until you STOP!

**St. Mary's Catholic Academy and Our Lady of Grace Catholic
Academy
School Councils
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