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Headteacher: Mr. S. Pearson



## Our Approach to Bullying

What do we think bullying is at Walmley Junior School?

### **S.T.O.P** **Several Times On Purpose**

Bullying behaviour is not an accident; a bully hurts someone Several Times On Purpose. A bully can hurt someone in the following ways:

- Physical: e.g. kicking, hitting and damaging their belongings.
- Verbal: e.g. name calling, threats and making offensive remarks.
- Indirect: e.g. spreading nasty stories about someone, gossiping and leaving someone out from social groups.
- Cyber: e.g. online messages, texts or making nasty phone calls or putting unkind videos on YouTube.

What should I do if I think my child is being bullied?

### **S.T.O.P** **Start Telling Other People**

If you think your child is being bullied, let us know in school. We cannot deal with an issue unless we are made aware of it.

You can also help your child:

- Tell them they do not deserve to be bullied and it is not their fault.
- Help them to be positive - to walk and act confidently even if they don't feel that way inside.
- Do not encourage children to fight back. This quite often makes things worse.
- Do not contact the other parent to tell them their child is a bully. This almost always makes things worse.
- Encourage them to tell someone what has happened straight away. It is difficult to deal with a problem that happened weeks ago.

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Respect ■ Honesty ■ Kindness ■ Generosity ■ Perseverance ■ Politeness ■ Conscientiousness

### **What are school doing to ensure we are being proactive to prevent bullying?**

- Listen to the concerns of children and investigate incidents as fully as possible, listening to all involved.
- Organise the school to minimise opportunities for bullying.
- Use the Walmley Values to ensure children know how to treat one another with respect.
- Make sure the children know what bullying is and what to do if they are being bullied.
- Deal quickly, firmly and fairly with incidents in an appropriate manner for each individual case.
- Involve parents when this is necessary.
- Support the victim and bully by continual monitoring of their behaviour.
- Where necessary, increase their self-esteem.
- Where necessary, involve support from outside agencies.

### **What can parents do to ensure they are being proactive to prevent bullying?**

- Take an active interest in your child's social life. Discuss friendships and how to be a good friend.
- If they are different in some way, help them to be proud of it; it is good to be an individual. Help them appreciate the differences of others in a positive way.
- Discuss issues such as racism, religious beliefs and homophobia with your children in an age appropriate way. Children are not prejudiced or discriminatory unless they have heard these views elsewhere.
- Teach them to respect the views and opinions of others. Just because they do not share these views, it does not make them wrong.

### **What is the escalation process?**

If you believe your child is being bullied, please speak to the class teacher in the first instance. Following this, you would need to speak to the phase deputy head. If you are not happy the problem has been resolved, it should then be referred to the headteacher.

If you still unhappy, please refer to our complaints policy.

Your child will hear this message regularly in school and, if you have any concerns, please come and speak to us.