

# Ryders Hayes School

A Primary Learning Academy



## Anti Bullying Policy

Ryders Hayes School

Gilpin Crescent

Pelsall

Walsall

WS3 4HX

01922 683008

[postbox@ryders-hayes.co.uk](mailto:postbox@ryders-hayes.co.uk)

Wayne McDonald – Pastoral Lead

September 2020

To be reviewed annually

Ryders Hayes is a Rights Respecting School and as such strongly believes in and promotes the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. This policy exemplifies these rights and our practise aims to ensure that the following rights are adhered to.

Article 3: The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all things that affect children.

Article 12: Every child has the right to have a say in all matters affecting them, and to have their views taken seriously.

Article 13: Every child must be free to say what they think and seek and receive all kinds of information, as long as it is within the law.

Article 14: Every child has the right to think and believe what they want and to practice their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights. Governments must respect the rights of parents to give their children information about this right.

Article 19: Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents or anyone else who looks after them.

Article 28: Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free. Secondary education must be available for every child. Discipline in schools must respect children's dignity.

Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

Article 29: Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and their environment.

Article 30: Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, regardless of whether these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live.

Article 36: Governments must protect children from all other forms of bad treatment

Our school is a place where every person has the right to be themselves, to be included and to learn in a safe and happy environment. Everyone at our school is equal and treats each another with respect and kindness.

### **Aims and purpose of the policy**

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable and will not be tolerated at our school. At our school the safety, welfare and well-being of all pupils and staff is a key priority. We take all incidences of bullying seriously and it is our duty as a whole school community to take measures to prevent and tackle any bullying, harassment or discrimination.

We actively promote values of respect and equality and work to ensure that difference and diversity is celebrated across the whole school community. We want to enable our pupils to become responsible citizens and to prepare them for life in 21st Century Britain. These values reflect those that will be expected of our pupils by society, when they enter secondary school and beyond in the world of work or further study.

We are committed to improving our school's approach to tackling bullying and regularly monitor, review and assess the impact of our preventative measures.

*Related policies e. g. Behaviour Policy / Equality Policy*

#### **1. Definition of bullying**

Bullying is hurtful or unkind behaviour which is deliberate and repeated. Bullying can be carried out by an individual or a group of people towards an individual or group.

The **STOP** acronym can be applied to define bullying – **S**everal **T**imes **O**n **P**urpose.

The nature of bullying can be:

- **Physical** – such as hitting or physically intimidating someone, or using inappropriate or

unwanted physical contact towards someone

- **Attacking property** – such as damaging, stealing or hiding someone's possessions

Bullying can be based on any of the following things:

- **Race** (racist bullying)
- **Religion or belief**
- **Culture or class**
- **Gender** (sexist bullying)
- **Sexual orientation** (homophobic or biphobic bullying)
- **Gender identity** (transphobic bullying)
- **Special Educational Needs (SEN) or disability**
- **Appearance or health conditions**
- **Related to home or other personal situation**
- **Related to another vulnerable group of people**

**No form of bullying will be tolerated and all incidents will be taken seriously.**

## 2. Reporting bullying

**PUPILS WHO ARE BEING BULLIED:** If a pupil is being bullied they are encouraged to not retaliate but to tell someone they trust about it such as a friend, family member or trusted adult. They are also encouraged to report any bullying incidents in school:

- Report to a teacher – their class teacher, or any other staff in school
- Tell a *member of the pupil leadership team* who in turn can help them tell a teacher or staff
- Tell any other adult staff in school – such as lunchtime supervisors, Learning Support Assistants or the school office
- Tell an adult at home
- Report anonymously
- Call ChildLine to speak with someone in confidence on 0800 1111

### Reporting – roles and responsibilities

**STAFF:** All school staff, both teaching and non-teaching (for example midday supervisors, caretakers, librarians) have a duty to report bullying, to be vigilant to the signs of bullying and to play an active role in the school's measures to prevent bullying. If staff are aware of bullying, they should reassure the pupils involved and inform their class teacher.

The following staff members are anti-bullying leads: Mrs Miner, Mrs Paul, Mrs Heaton, Mrs Deeley and Mr McDonald

**SENIOR STAFF:** The Senior Leadership Team and the head teacher have overall responsibility for ensuring that the anti-bullying policy is followed by all members of staff and that the school upholds its duty to promote the safety and well-being of all young people. In addition to the designated anti-bullying leads, Mrs Miner is the Senior Leader responsible for anti-bullying.

**PARENTS AND CARERS:** Parents and carers should look out for potential signs of bullying such as distress, lack of concentration, feigning illness or other unusual behaviour. Parents and carers should encourage their child not to retaliate and support and encourage them to report the bullying. Parents and carers can report an incident of bullying to the school either in person, or by phoning or emailing the school office or a member of staff

**PUPILS:** Pupils should not take part in any kind of bullying and should watch out for signs of bullying among their peers. They should never be bystanders to incidents of bullying, but should offer support to the victim and, if possible, help them to tell a trusted adult.

### **3. Responding to bullying**

#### **When bullying has been reported, the following actions will be taken:**

- Staff will record the bullying on an incident reporting form and also record the incident centrally on SIMS
- Designated school staff will monitor incident reporting forms and information recorded on SIMS analysing and evaluating the results
- Designated school staff will produce termly reports summarising the information, which the head teacher will report to the governing body
- Staff will offer support to the target of the bullying in discussion with the pupil's class teacher. Individual meetings will then be held with any target of bullying to devise a plan of action that ensures they are made to feel safe and reassured that the bullying is not their fault. Action plans will make use of the school buddy system to support pupils in school
- Staff will pro-actively respond to the bully who may require support. They will discuss with the target's class teacher to devise a plan of action
- Staff will decide whether to inform parents or carers and where necessary involve them in any plans of action
- Staff will assess whether any other authorities (such as police or the local authority) need to be involved, particularly when actions take place outside of school

#### **4. Bullying outside of school**

Bullying is unacceptable and will not be tolerated, whether it takes place inside or outside of school. Bullying can take place on the way to and from school, before or after school hours, at the weekends or during the holidays, or in the wider community. The nature of cyber bullying in particular means that it can impact on pupils' well-being beyond the school day. Staff, parents and carers, and pupils must be vigilant to bullying outside of school and report and respond according to their responsibilities as outlined in this policy.

#### **5. Derogatory language**

Derogatory or offensive language is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. This type of language can take any of the forms of bullying listed in our definition of bullying. It will be challenged by staff and recorded and monitored on SIMS and follow up actions and sanctions, if appropriate, will be taken for pupils and staff found using any such language. Staff are also encouraged to record the casual use of derogatory language using informal mechanisms such as a classroom log.

#### **6. Prejudice-based incidents**

A prejudice-based incident is a one-off incident of unkind or hurtful behaviour that is motivated by a prejudice or negative attitudes, beliefs or views towards a protected characteristic or minority group. It can be targeted towards an individual or group of people and have a significant impact on those targeted. All prejudice-based incidents are taken seriously and recorded and monitored in school, with the head teacher regularly reporting incidents to the governing body. This not only ensures that all incidents are dealt with accordingly, but also helps to prevent bullying as it enables targeted anti-bullying interventions.

#### **7. School initiatives to prevent and tackle bullying**

##### **We use a range of measures to prevent and tackle bullying including:**

- A child-friendly anti-bullying policy ensures all pupils understand and uphold the anti-bullying policy and this is clearly displayed on our anti-bullying board, displayed in all classrooms and on our school website.
- The PSHE programme of study includes opportunities for pupils to understand about

different types of bullying and what they can do to respond and prevent bullying

- School assemblies help raise pupils' awareness of bullying and derogatory language
  - Difference and diversity are celebrated across the school through diverse displays, books and images. The whole school participates in events including Anti-Bullying Week, Black History Month and LGBT history month.
  - The school values of equality and respect are embedded across the curriculum to ensure that it is as inclusive as possible
  - Stereotypes are challenged by staff and pupils across the school
  - Playground buddies and pupil leadership team offer support to all pupils, including those who may have been the target of bullying during break and lunch times
  - Restorative justice programmes provide support to targets of bullying and those who show bullying behaviour
  - Pupils are continually involved in developing school-wide anti-bullying initiatives through consultation with our Pupil Leadership Group and our Rights, Respecting Schools Award, and through the anti-bullying surveys
- 
- Working with parents and carers and in partnership with community organisations to tackle bullying, where appropriate

## **8. Training**

The head teacher is responsible for ensuring that all school staff, both teaching and nonteaching (including, caretakers and site manager) receive regular training on all aspects of the anti-bullying policy.

## **9. Monitoring and reviewing**

The head teacher is responsible for reporting to the governing body (and the local authority where applicable) on how the policy is being enforced and upheld, via the termly report. The governors are in turn responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of the policy via the termly report and by in-school monitoring such as learning walks and focus groups with pupils. The policy is reviewed every 12 months, in consultation with the whole school community including staff, pupils, parents, carers and governors.

*Date of last review:*

*Head teacher signed:*

*Chair of Governors signed:*