

Anti-Bullying Policy

- Bullying is defined by the School as the deliberate attempt by word or deed by one or more pupils to make another pupil feel miserable, distressed, or harmed.
- Bullying, therefore, may be seen to happen when children:
 - are teased persistently
 - are called names
 - are threatened
 - are hit, kicked or punched
 - experience upset through mobile technology or posts on the internet
 - have possessions taken or spoiled or experience any treatment that makes them feel
 - lonely
 - upset
 - worried
 - unsafe
 - hurt
- LYNDHURST HOUSE IS FIRMLY COMMITTED TO AN ANTI-BULLYING ETHOS. IT IS CLEARLY TO BE UNDERSTOOD BY ALL PUPILS THAT BULLYING IS UNACCEPTABLE.

How the School will tackle Bullying

1. Identifying a problem. Because Lyndhurst is a very small school, and there are few areas within it which are out of sight or remain unsupervised for long, there is a high chance of overtly bullying behaviour being observed by teachers, or quickly reported to them, for action to be taken at once.

However, it is recognised that spiteful behaviour, teasing and other malicious acts can take place in unobtrusive ways in between lessons, before and after school, and at the other odd moments during the day when children move from A to B, or are changing for or travelling to games, when the context is less formally structured than lesson and playground time.

In such circumstances it is necessary for teachers to be observant of possible symptoms of distress, and to be open to the approach of pupils with anything to report or confide, and then to investigate and take action as appropriate.

Possible symptoms might include

- Losing interest in school work and under-achieving
- Reluctance to go to playground
- Isolation on playground
- Frequently missing or damaged books, possessions or clothes
- Constant attention-seeking or over-pleasing
- Displaying an uncharacteristically unhappy or withdrawn demeanour
- Aggressive or disruptive behaviour

- Concentration difficulties
- Refusal to explain what is wrong
- Any unexplained sign of physical injury
- Giving improbable excuses to explain any of the above

In addition to the above, parents may also report from home

- A reluctance to attend school
- Uncharacteristic sleeping difficulties, bed-wetting, night terrors
- Complaints of difficulties with other children

Any of the above might have other causes, but the possibility of bullying should always be considered and investigated if any of these symptoms occurs.

2. Dealing with Bullying

- The victim will be given immediate support
- The perpetrator(s), and any “onlookers” involved will be interviewed. The unacceptable nature of the behaviour will be emphasised, together with the possible consequences of any repetition.
- All staff who come into contact with the victim and perpetrator will be notified and instructed to remain vigilant at all times.
- Where appropriate, parents will be informed.
- Where deemed appropriate by the Head, sanctions will be imposed, ranging from:
 - simple apology
 - detention
 - suspension
 - exclusion

3. Summary

The essence of the anti-Bullying approach is continued repetition of the following principles:

- all forms of bullying behaviour are completely unacceptable
- all boys are entitled to feel safe and secure at school
- all evidence and allegations of bullying will be taken seriously.

These messages form a part of the overall delivery of the School’s ethos in Assembly and Form Teacher time, and in private interviews with pupils.

This policy was reviewed in July 2009, and will be reviewed annually during the course of Anti-Bullying week (each November).