

# What is Bullying?

Bullying is defined as the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. It can happen face to face or online and may include:

- physical – hitting, kicking, theft;
- verbal – name calling, taunts, threats, racist remarks;
- indirect – spreading rumours, excluding someone from social groups;
- cyber-bullying – bullying by email, over the phone and by text message or by using digital cameras and camera phones to intrude on the privacy of others.
- Exclusion from joining in with activities or made to feel left out.
- Intimidation from looks and feeling frightened.
- Damage to own property on a regular basis.
- Victimisation from adults who may use power or size to intimidate a child.

We are aware that bullying can happen at any point in the day and we do not tolerate bullying at this school.

**Article 3** The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all actions concerning children.



**Article 12** Every child has the right to say what they think in all matters affecting them, and to have their views taken seriously.

**Article 28** Every child has the right to an education.

**Article 31** Every child has the right to relax, play and join in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.

# Meet the children who share the views of their class peers...

Two children from each year 1 and 2 class are nominated each year by their class peers to represent the class and be a part of either the Rights Respecting steering group or School Council. Both groups share the voice from the children in their class and work on developing school life for children.



*The Rights Respecting Steering Group*



*The School Council*

# Bullying



What does bullying mean and what should you do if you are worried about your child?



*Information for parents and carers*  
Please speak to staff or visit the school website if you would like more information.

## What should I do if I am worried about my child?

Talk to your child about their worries and listen to find out what is happening.

Talk to your child's class teacher and allow them to report the matter to a senior leader.

A clear account of the incident will be recorded on the 'bullying incidence form' and given to the head teacher or deputy head teacher.

The HT or DHT **will talk to** the children concerned and will report the outcome to the class teacher/teachers of those children.

Where appropriate sanction(s) will be applied and parents will be informed of this.

Staff will work with the child in a range of ways to ensure that they have opportunities to discuss and feel at ease with the resolutions/ sanctions (against the bully) put in place.

## What do we do in School to teach children about Bullying?

At Elmwood Infant and Nursery School we are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils so that they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable in our school. If bullying does occur, all pupils should feel safe to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. As a UNICEF Rights Respecting school, pupils are taught that they have rights and with those rights, come responsibilities. We recognise that rights and responsibilities are equally balanced and encourage our children to take responsibility for their actions in order to develop an awareness of how they affect the rights of others. These rights are taken from the UNCRC. Children have the right to be protected from conflict and cruelty and they have the responsibility to ensure other children are kept safe and are protected from harm.

### Strategies to help prevent the occurrence of bullying behaviour

At Elmwood Infant and Nursery School we strive to demonstrate and promote tolerance, understanding, respect and acceptance of difference. This is developed through:

- all members of the school community being aware of and following the school behaviour policy;
- PSHE/ SEAL and Circle Time activities where all children are given opportunities to develop social and emotional skills in order to make judgements about their behaviour and its effects on others;
- stories, drama, role play and discussions in all curriculum areas where children are offered further opportunities to reinforce and promote positive behaviours and empathy skills;

- awareness of issues being raised and discussed through assemblies and participation in events such as 'Friendship week';
- staff being committed to always listening to and encouraging children to be open about their feelings;
- Promotion of RRS rights and values in everyday school life, both in lessons and during whole school assemblies
- children being given opportunities to discuss concerns and strategies through the School Council and RRS steering group.
- Creation of class charters and a whole school charter which are made and agreed to by all children and adults
- Stimulating playtimes with equipment, games and activities where group play and co-operation are encouraged
- 'playtime' book developed by school council in each classroom to ensure children play co-operatively across the year groups
- A booklet developed by RRS to welcome new children to our school community
- use of the schools superskills in assemblies and during lesson times
- regular RRS assemblies whereby children can begin to understand their rights and responsibilities and apply this attitude to their learning and peer groups
- lunchtime friendship club
- quiet area in the playground during lunchtime
- Nurture provision for some children to provide a safe environment to discuss feelings, worries and concerns.