



Learning together • Growing together

Bonnygate Primary School's Anti-bullying Policy

Approved and adopted September 2009

Review Date 23/11/11

Anti-bullying charter signed. Date.....

SIGNATURES

Pupils
(via the School Council)

Staff Coordinator of
Anti-bullying

Governor with
Responsibility for
Anti-bullying

Headteacher

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Bonnygate Rights and Responsibilities

- We have the right to come to school without being bullied.
- We have the responsibility not to bully or accept the bullying behaviour of others.

What is bullying?

Bullying is behaviour which deliberately targets another person/s making them feel uncomfortable, distressed or threatened.

Bullying is repeated over time.

Bullying makes those being bullied feel powerless to defend themselves.

Why are we against bullying?

- Everyone has the right to feel safe, welcome, secure and happy
- We should treat everyone with consideration
- Everybody has the right to be treated with consideration and respect.
- Bullies need to learn different ways of behaving.

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school.

What types of bullying are there?

- Emotional (being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting, threatening behaviour, gestures)
- Verbal (name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing)
- Physical (pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence)
- Cyber (all areas of internet, email and internet chatroom misuse.
Mobile threats by text messaging and calls.
Misuse of associated technology ie: camera and video facilities including those on mobile phones.
- Racist (racial taunts, graffiti, gestures)
- Sexual (unwanted physical contact, sexually abusive comments)
- Homophobic (because of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality)

What are the signs and symptoms of bullying?

A person may indicate by signs or behaviours that they are being bullied. Everyone should be aware of these possible signs and should investigate if the person;

- Is frightened of walking to or from school or changes route
- Doesn't want to go on the school / public bus

- Begs to be driven to school
- Changes their usual routine
- Is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
- Begins to truant
- Becomes withdrawn, anxious or lacking in confidence
- Becomes aggressive, abusive, disruptive or unreasonable
- Starts stammering
- Threatens or attempts suicide
- Threatens or attempts self harm
- Threatens or attempts to run away
- Cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- Feels ill in the morning
- Performance in school work begins to drop
- Comes home with clothes torn, property damaged or 'missing'
- Asks for money or starts stealing money
- Has dinner or other monies continually 'lost'
- Has unexplained cuts or bruises
- Comes home 'starving'
- Bullying others
- Changes in eating habits
- Is frightened to say what is wrong
- Afraid to use the internet or mobile phone
- Nervous or jumpy when a cyber message is received
- Gives improbable excuses for their behaviour.
- Not wanting to go out at playtime
- Bed wetting
- Changed / anxious behaviour at home

What causes Bullying? (school council ideas)

People bully for different reasons.

The reasons could be:

- to feel powerful
- jealousy
- to feel good about themselves
- to be in control
- because they want something (attention, possession or friends)
- to look good in front of other people
- to feel popular
- copying other children
- because of peer pressure

- to be big/clever
- for fun
- low self esteem
- poor role-model at home
- because they are being bullied themselves
- because they don't understand the impact it can have
- because they see and pick on an easy target (small, won't tell anyone, lonely or different in some way)

How can we prevent Bullying?

The school has fostered a clear understanding that bullying, in any form, is not acceptable. This is done by:

- Developing an effective anti-bullying policy and practice. The school will then become a safer and happier environment, with consequent improvements in attitudes, behaviour, and relationships and with a positive impact on learning and achievement.
- Regular praise of positive and supportive behaviour by all staff.
- Work in school which develops empathy and emotional intelligence (SEAL).
- Any incidents treated seriously and dealt with immediately. (Bullying log in Headteacher's office)
- Model positive behaviour.
- Develop an understanding of bullying with parents/carers and governors.
- Peer mediation / play ground buddies.
- Preventative games to develop cooperation.
- Circle time
- Assemblies

Our school will respond promptly and effectively to reported incidents of bullying

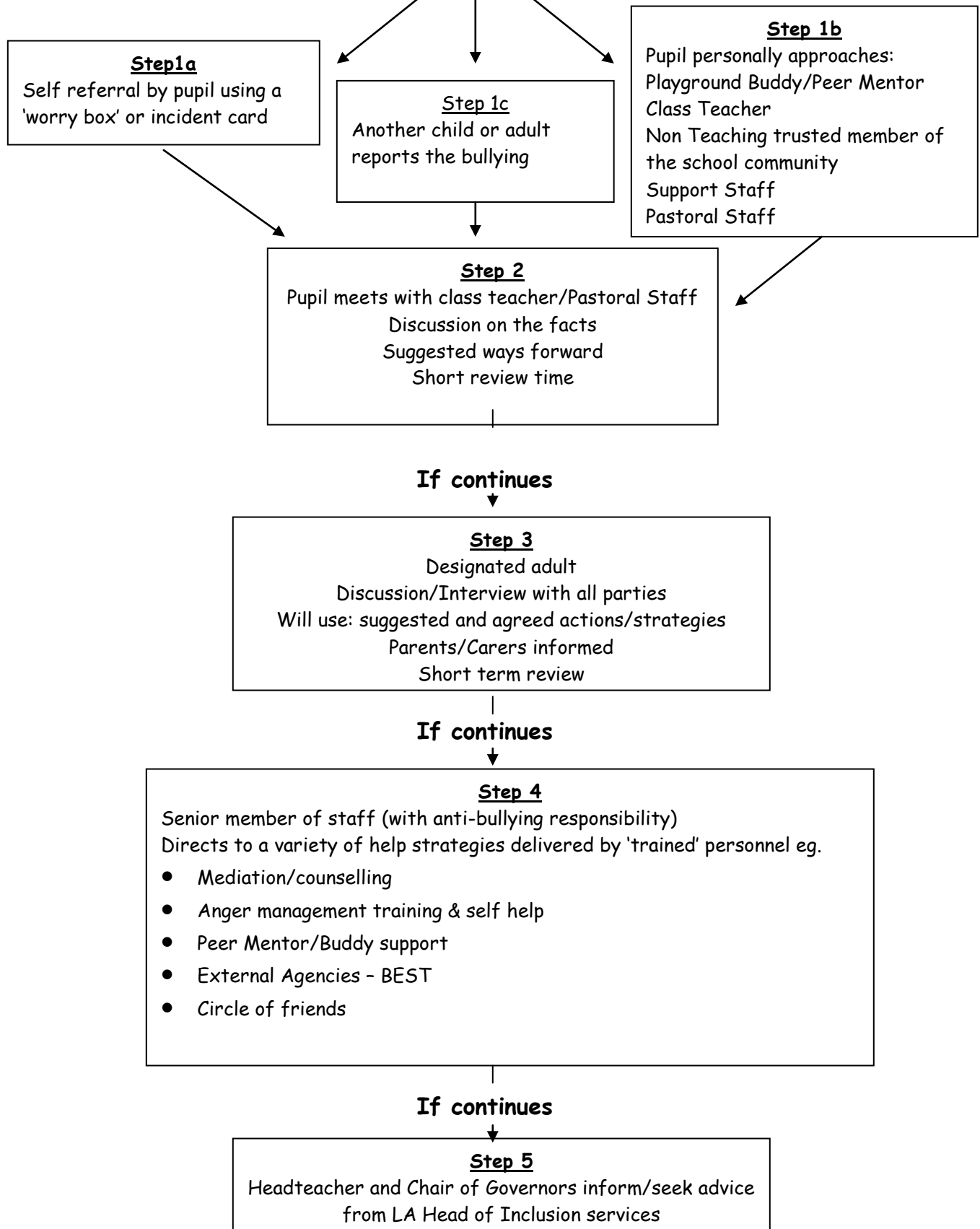
Responses to Bullying

Pathways of help - next page

PROCEDURES IN FOR REPORTING BULLYING

PATHWAYS OF HELP

Child is bullied



Support Agencies

Anti-bullying Alliance - the alliance brings together over 60 organisations into one network with the aim of reducing bullying. Their website has a parent section with links to recommended organisations who can help with bullying issues

www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Kidscape

www.kidscape.org.uk

02077303300

Childline - advice and stories from children who have survived bullying
08000 1111

Bullying on line

www.bullying.co.uk

Parentline Plus - advice and links for parents www.parentlineplus.org.uk
08088002222

Parents Against Bullying

01928 576152

Useful sources of information

Stonewall - the gay equality organisation founded in 1989. Founding members include Sir Ian McKellen. www.stonewall.org.uk.

Cyberbullying.org - one of the first websites set up in this area, for young people, providing advice around preventing and taking action against cyberbullying. A Canadian based site www.cyberbullying.org

Chatdanger - a website that informs about the potential dangers online (including bullying), and advice on how to stay safe while chatting
www.chatdanger.com

Think U Know - the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP), has produced a set of resources around internet safety for secondary schools www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Know IT All for Parents - a range of resources for primary and secondary schools by Childnet International. Has a sample family agreement www.childnet-int.org/kia/parents