

# TYTHERINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ANTI-BULLYING POLICY (1.10.09)

## Statement of intent

We at **Tytherington High School** are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all 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 be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a **telling** school. This means that anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff.

## What is bullying?

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

Bullying can occur in many different ways.

- **Physical** pushing, kicking, hitting.
- **Emotional** tormenting, excluding, being unfriendly
- **Verbal** name calling, spreading rumours, teasing
- **Sexual** unwanted physical contact, sexually abusive comments
- **Cyber** misuse of the internet, threats via mobile phones
- **Racist** racial taunts, graffiti, insults
- **Homophobic** focussing on the issue of sexuality

## Why is it important to respond to bullying?

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect. Pupils who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving.

Tytherington High School has a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

## **Objectives of this policy**

- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff should know what the school policy is on bullying and follow it when bullying is reported.
- All pupils and parents should know what the school bullying policy is on bullying, and know what they should do if bullying arises.
- As a school, we take bullying seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Bullying will not be tolerated.

## **Signs and Symptoms**

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that he or she is being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and should investigate any suspicions that they have.

Cheshire County Council has produced a Signs and Symptoms Checklist which is viewable on the school web-site (see Appendix 1).

## **Procedures**

1. Report bullying incidents to staff.
2. In cases of serious bullying, the incidents will be investigated by two or more members of staff and recorded on the central data system.
3. In serious cases, parents will be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem.
4. If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted.
5. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying be stopped quickly.
6. An attempt will be made to help the bully (or bullies) change their behaviour.

## **Outcomes**

1. If possible, the pupils will be reconciled.
2. The bully (or bullies) may be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences may take place.
3. In serious cases, exclusion from school will be considered.
4. After the incident/incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure that repeated bullying does not take place.

**Last reviewed and agreed: 1.10.09**

**Next Review: October 2010**