



ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Where children believe, achieve and succeed

Reviewed October 2025

Halewood Church of England Primary School

Mission Statement – Strategic Direction

At Halewood Church of England Primary School we serve the community by providing a happy, secure and caring Christian environment where all are valued and respected. We believe in the uniqueness of the individual and recognise the diversity and range of contributions that each can make.

We aim to provide for the spiritual, emotional, physical, mental and social development of the whole child; this included a growth in knowledge and understanding of self, and the world in which we live. We seek to foster self-esteem and a sense of responsibility to others and the world around.

In all that we do we endeavour to provide a high quality of education within a creative, stimulating, encouraging and mutually supportive environment where children are enabled to develop the skills they require for living.

Ethos

Where children believe, achieve and succeed.

Vision

Train up a child in the way they should go, and when they are old they will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

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Halewood Cofe Primary School recognises that bullying of anyone in our school community is an issue to be taken seriously. We recognise the damage it can cause to the education of the victim, the wellbeing of the victim, the perpetrator and the school as a whole. We are committed to working towards its complete eradication and to establish appropriate means of providing after care should an incident of bullying occur.

As a school we have created an ethos of good behaviour where pupils treat one another and the school staff with respect, because they know that this is the right way to behave. Values of respect for staff and other pupils, an understanding of the value of education, and a clear understanding of how our actions affect others permeate the whole school environment and are reinforced by staff and older pupils who set a good example to the rest.

Our school's response to bullying does not start at the point at which a child has been bullied. Our school staff act proactively to gather any information about issues between pupils which might provoke conflict, and develop strategies to prevent bullying occurring in the first place. This might involve talking to pupils about issues of difference, perhaps in lessons, through dedicated events or projects, or through assemblies.

We are committed to ensure our school acts proactively to ensure that we meet our duties under the Equality Act and challenge bullying of anyone due to their differences or perceived differences.

Definition of Bullying

Bullying is a deliberate action taken regularly and over a period of time, with the deliberate intention to hurt someone either physically or emotionally. It can happen in many places.

It can take many forms, but the three main types are physical (e.g. hitting, kicking or theft), verbal (e.g. name calling, racist remarks, gender remarks) or indirect (e.g. spreading rumours, excluding someone from social groups).

Single incidences of verbal or physical attack, and behaviour, which is hurtful but not intentional, should also be taken seriously and dealt with accordingly.

Bullying includes

- Emotional
 - being unfriendly
 - excluding
 - tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures)
 - Physical
 - Pushing
 - Kicking
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- Biting
- Hitting
- punching or
- any use of violence

- Racial
 - taunts
 - graffiti
 - gestures

- Sexual
 - unwanted physical contact
 - sexually abusive comments

- Homophobic and transphobic
 - focussing on the issue of sexuality

- Direct or indirect Verbal
 - name-calling
 - Threatening language
 - Sarcasm
 - spreading rumours
 - teasing

- Cyber bullying
 - All areas of the internet such as
 - email
 - internet chat
 - Twitter
 - Facebook misuse

- Mobile threats
 - text messaging and calls

- Misuse of associated technology
 - camera and video facilities, ipad, games consoles

Bullying may be related to:

- Race
- Gender
- Religion
- Culture
- SEN or disability
- Appearance or health conditions
- Home circumstances, incl young carers and poverty
- Sexual orientation, sexism, homophobia, transphobia

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Bullying can take place in the classroom, playground, toilets, on the journey to and from school, on residential trips and cyberspace. It can take place in group activities and between families in the local community.

Distinguishing between bullying and conflict

It is crucial to distinguish between conflict and bullying. We recognise that conflict can naturally occur between children from time to time, and such instances will be addressed in accordance with our behaviour policy. Each incident will be carefully assessed, taking into account all documented evidence and, most importantly, the voice of the child. Where incidents occur repeatedly over time and there is evidence of bullying, these cases will be taken seriously and managed in strict accordance with our anti-bullying policy.

Preventing Bullying happening in our school

We foster a clear understanding that bullying, in any form, is not acceptable. We are proactive in our approach to preventing bullying by:

We regularly discuss our school's values in the classroom, the playground and assemblies and refer to our 3 Rs. Children are encouraged to show kindness and respect to each other, staff and the wider community. Our behaviour code is based around our 3 core expectations, which are displayed in every classroom and around the school. These are the expectations for everyone within our school community:

'Doing The Right Thing' – The Three R's

- The right to feel and be safe
 - The right to learn
- The right to be treated with respect

We use the curriculum to develop children's understanding of bullying and its effects.

Through our RE teaching we develop understanding, tolerance and acceptance of all, regardless of their religious beliefs.

PSHE lessons, including circle time encouraging good behaviour and developing understanding and acceptance of cultural differences and diversity.

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Use of our PSHE curriculum, in worship and during lessons to develop empathy and emotional intelligence

Anti-bullying focused week

Half termly Online Safety Focus

Safeguarding Curriculum, including talks and visitors (NSPCC, Bully Busters, Community Police)

Regular praise of positive and supportive behaviour by all staff using verbal praise, stickers, certificates and class rewards.

Trained playground leaders.

Access for all learners to school Learning Mentor Support

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The role of governors

The governing body supports the headteacher in all attempts to eliminate bullying from our school. Any incidents of bullying that do occur are taken very seriously and dealt with appropriately.

The governing body reviews the school policy regularly. The governors require the headteacher to report to the governors on request about the effectiveness of school anti bullying strategies.

The governing body responds within ten days to any request from a parent to investigate incidents of bullying. In all cases, the governing body notifies the headteacher and asks him/her to conduct an investigation into the case and to report back to a representative of the governing body.

The role of the headteacher

It is the responsibility of the headteacher to implement the school anti-bullying policy and to ensure that all staff (both teaching and non-teaching) are aware of the school policy and know how to deal with incidents of bullying. The headteacher reports to the governing body about the effectiveness of the anti-bullying policy on request.

The headteacher ensures that all children know that bullying is wrong, and that it is unacceptable behaviour in this school. The headteacher draws the attention of children to this when appropriate.

The headteacher sets the school climate of mutual support and praise for success, so making bullying less likely. The weekly Halewood Child of Excellence assembly, taken by the Headteacher, continually reinforces this positive

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approach. When children feel they are important and belong to a friendly and welcoming school, bullying is far less likely to be part of their behaviour.

The role of the staff

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- Teachers in our school take all forms of bullying seriously, and intervene to prevent incidents from taking place. Records are kept of serious incidents that happen in a file in the Headteachers office and are recorded on CPOMS.
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- If teachers witness an act of bullying, they do all they can to support the child who is being bullied. The Headteacher and Learning Mentor will always be informed and will introduce strategies for both the bully and the victim. The teacher or Learning Mentor will inform the parents. The Learning Mentor will also work with groups and whole classes to reinforce positive behaviour and self image.
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- If teachers become aware of any bullying taking place between members of a class, the issue is dealt with immediately. This may involve counselling and support for the victim of the bullying, and punishment for the child who has carried out the bullying. Time will be spent talking to the child who has bullied explaining why the action of the child was wrong, and endeavouring to help the child change their behaviour in future. The headteacher will be informed. The child's parents will be asked to come into the school to discuss the situation. In more extreme cases, for example where these initial discussions have proven ineffective, the headteacher may contact external support agencies.
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- Teachers attempt to support all children in their class and to establish a climate of trust and respect for all. By praising, rewarding and celebrating the success of all children particularly with the Halewood Child of Excellence Behaviour Scheme, regular PSHE sessions, work with the Learning Mentor and external visitors, Halewood C of E aims to prevent incidents of bullying.

The role of parents

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Halewood Cofe Primary School parents'/carers' role is to help the school to deal with bullying. They should:

- Discourage their children from using bullying behaviour at school, at home, online or elsewhere
- Take an active interest in their children's school life, especially with regard to friendships, playtime and the journey to and from school
- Watch out for signs that their children are being bullied, or are bullying others

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- Contact the school at the first sign if they are worried that their children are being bullied or are bullying others.

Parents who are concerned that their child might be being bullied, or who suspect that their child may be the perpetrator of bullying, should contact their child's class teacher immediately.

Parents have a responsibility to support the school's anti-bullying policy and to actively encourage their child to be a positive member of the school as shown in our Home /School Agreement.

The role of the children

Halewood Cofe Primary School children have come up with an Anti-Bullying Charter to help them to recognise and deal with any bullying issues.



Halewood Church of England Primary School Anti-Bullying Charter



What is bullying?

We define bullying as;

"Bullying is a deliberate action taken regularly and over a period of time, with the deliberate intention to hurt someone either physically or emotionally. We know it can happen in many places."

Bullying is not...

A one-off fight, an argument with a friend, a spur of the moment threat or a spiteful comment.

School Procedure

Class teacher will speak to the child privately and investigate.

Class teacher will inform the key staff and pass on a copy of the report.

Head teacher or Deputy Head teacher will investigate if there is a recurrence.

Do

Do tell someone, either a teacher, adult or a friend.

Do try and tell the bully to stop.

Do use the 'worry box/jar'

Don't

Don't ignore it.

Don't copy the behaviour of a bully.

Don't do it back to them.



Cyber Bullying

I only use devices or apps, sites or games if a trusted adult says so

I tell a trusted adult if I'm upset, worried, scared or confused by something I've seen or heard online.

I know people online aren't always who they say they are.

I know that everything I do online can be shared and might stay online forever.

What can you, your parents or carers do if you have concerns?

Speak to your class teacher immediately! If you still have concerns, speak to:-

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Monitoring and review

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- This policy is monitored by the headteacher, who reports to governors about the effectiveness of the policy on request.
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- This anti-bullying policy is the governors' responsibility and they review its effectiveness regularly.
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- This policy is to be used in conjunction with our:
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 - Child Protection Policy
 - Behaviour Policy
 - Positive Handling Policy
 - PSHE Policy
 - Equality Policy