



## **Rise Park Academy Trust**

### **Rise Park Infant and Junior School**

#### **Anti- bullying Policy**

Rise Park Infant and Junior School are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our children so that they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We are committed to developing an anti- bullying culture whereby no bullying; including online bullying and bullying between adults and children will be tolerated.

This policy outlines what Rise Park Infant and Junior School will do to prevent and tackle bullying.

#### **We will:**

- Monitor and review our anti – bullying policy and practice on a regular basis, ensuring that all directors, governors and staff know what the school policy is on bullying, and should follow it should and incident of bullying be reported.
- Support all staff to promote positive relationships to prevent bullying, and identify and tackle any bullying behaviour appropriately and promptly
- Ensure that all pupils know what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises
- Reassure parents/carers and pupils that they will be supported if bullying is reported. As a school we take bullying very seriously
- Report back to parents/carers regarding their concerns on bullying and deal promptly with complaints. Parents/ carers in turn will work with school to uphold the anti -bullying policy
- Ensure that pupils are aware that all bullying concerns will be dealt with sensitively and effectively so that they feel safe to learn
- Support all pupils through encouraging them to develop positive social skills and attitudes by learning how to relate to and respect each other

#### **Definition of bullying**

Bullying is 'behaviour by an individual or group, repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally' (DFE "Preventing and Tackling Bullying", October 2014) Bullying can take many forms and is often motivated by prejudice against particular groups. It might be motivated by actual differences between children, or perceived differences.

Bullying can happen to anyone. This policy covers all types of bullying including:

- Bullying related to race, religion or culture
- Bullying related to SEND ( Special Educational Needs or Disability)
- Bullying related to appearance or physical/ mental health conditions
- Bullying related to sexual orientation

- Bullying of young carers, children in care or otherwise related to home circumstances
- Bullying via technology – for instance, cyber – bullying via text message or the internet

Bullying can include: name calling, taunting, mocking, making offensive comments, kicking, hitting, taking belongings, gossiping, excluding people from groups, and spreading hurtful and untruthful rumours. This includes the same inappropriate and harmful behaviours expressed via digital devices (cyber bullying) such as sending inappropriate messages by phone, text, through websites and social media and apps, and sending offensive or degrading images by mobile phone or via the internet.

### **Preventing, identifying and responding to bullying**

In both schools 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 the 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 or through assemblies.

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

At Rise Park Infant and Junior School we will:

- Ensure staff are aware of and follow the school behaviour policy
- Create and support an inclusive environment which promotes a culture of mutual respect, consideration and care for others which will be upheld by all
- Actively provide opportunities ( through PSHE and SEAL activities) to develop pupils' social and emotional skills, including their resilience
- Provide an 'open door' approach for pupils, staff and parents/carers to access support and report concerns
- Challenge practice which does not uphold the school's values for example, tolerance, non-discrimination and respect towards others
- Consider all opportunities for addressing bullying in all forms throughout the curriculum ( stories, drama and role play) including a range of additional approaches such as through displays, assemblies, events and the school council
- Regularly update and evaluate our approaches to take into account the developments of technology, and provide up to date advice and education to all the members of the community regarding positive on line behaviour
- Train all staff to identify all forms of bullying and to follow the school policy and procedures( including recording and reporting incidents
- Work with other agencies and the wider school community to prevent and tackle concerns
- Celebrate success and achievements to promote and build a positive school ethos

### **Involvement of pupils**

We will:

- Regularly gather children's views on any concerns regarding bullying within the school
- Ensure that all pupils know how to express worries and anxieties about bullying
- Ensure that all pupils are aware of the range of sanctions which may be applied against those engaging in bullying
- Involve pupils in anti-bullying campaigns in schools and embedded messages in the wider school curriculum (appropriate to their age)
- Offer support to pupils who have been bullied and to those who are bullying in order to address the problems they have **Liaison with parents/carers**

We will:

- Make sure that key information about bullying (including named points of contact if parents are worried) is available to parents/ carers e.g. website
- Ensure parents know about our complaints procedure and how to use it effectively
- Ensure parents work with the school to role model positive behaviour for pupils

### **Links with other school policies and practices**

This policy links with a number of other school policies and practices including:

- Complaints policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection policies
- Whistleblowing Policy
- E-Safety (online safety)
- Curriculum Policies such as PSHE and computing
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Equalities Policy
- Communications Policy

### **Responsibilities**

It is the responsibility of:

- School Directors and Governors to take a lead role in monitoring and reviewing this policy
- Directors, Governors and Staff to be aware of this policy and implement it accordingly
- The Head Teacher to communicate the policy to the school community and to ensure that disciplinary measures are applied fairly, consistently and reasonably
- Staff to uphold the aims of the policy
- Parents/ carers to support their children and work in partnership with the school
- Pupils to understand and follow the policy

### **Procedure for all staff**

### **Dealing with Incidents**

When bullying is suspected or reported:

- Staff will intervene immediately
- Staff will investigate – listen to all parties and witnesses
- The incident will be recorded and given to the Head Teacher or the Deputy Head Teacher, who will talk to the children concerned
- Parents/ Carers of the child involved in the bullying will be informed and will meet with an appropriate member of staff
- A suitable sanction will be implemented for the child doing the bullying in order to modify or change the behaviour
- Staff will monitor the behaviour of all pupils involved and all staff be alerted to watch out for further occurrence

**Adults who have been bullied will be helped by:**

- Discussing what happens with a senior member of staff and establishing the concern
- Clarifying the schools official procedures for complaints or concerns
- If online, requesting content be removed and or/ reporting account
- Instigating disciplinary action, if appropriate

**Monitoring and Review**

This policy will be monitored and reviewed by Governors every three years

The Head Teacher will report on a regular basis to the Directors and Governors incidents of bullying and outcomes

The school will ensure that the policy is consistently applied and that any issues identified will be incorporated into the school's action planning

July 2016

Approved by Governors: Autumn 2016