



# Hill Mead Primary School

## **Anti-Bullying Policy**

## **Introduction**

At Hill Mead, we believe that all children should be able to come to school to learn without fear of being bullied. We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment. We firmly believe that bullying is wrong and will not be tolerated at Hill Mead. We are a 'telling' school which means that anyone who is aware of bullying taking place is expected to tell a member of staff.

## **What is bullying?**

We define bullying as repeated verbal, non-verbal, physical or emotional abuse that is intended to threaten, intimidate or harm another person.

## **Our aim at Hill Mead is to make sure:**

- Our school is a safe and happy place free from any kind of bullying behaviour.
- Staff, pupils and parents are clear on what types of behaviour constitute bullying.
- We take immediate and positive action to prevent bullying from occurring through a clear and consistent school policy.
- We have clear expectations and foster partnerships with parents to maintain a bully free environment.
- As potential victims or bystanders, we assume shared responsibility for the reporting of bullying to ensure it can be dealt with immediately.

## **Ways in which we prevent bullying at Hill Mead:**

- Maintain and build on our anti bullying school culture.
- Set clear rules and boundaries so that pupils understand bullying is unacceptable.
- Maintain a high profile of bullying across the school through lessons, assemblies and displays.
- Ensure pupils understand the difference between joking and bullying.
- Celebrate difference and diversity.
- Educate pupils on e-safety ensuring they understand what cyber bullying is and that it is equally unacceptable.
- Provide children with a discrete way to report bullying incidences.
- Encourage children to report bullying incidences to any adult in the school.
- Ensure any type of bullying is taken seriously and dealt with efficiently, putting appropriate sanctions into place.
- Work with outside agencies to support our work on anti-bullying e.g. Kidscape and GAGV (Growing Against Gangs and Violence).

### **What can children do if they are being bullied?**

- Report it to an adult at school.
- Leave a note for their teacher.
- Tell a friend or a parent/carer at home.
- Use strategies to stand up to potential bullies, e.g. saying no, fogging, creative responses etc.

### **What the school will do** *(See also Behaviour Policy)*

- Respond quickly to reporting of incidences by pupils, parents and carers.
- Ensure appropriate sanctions are given to those who have bullied that reflect the seriousness of the incident.
- Inform parents that their child has been involved in an incidence of bullying.
- Provide emotional support for any child who has been affected by a bullying incident.

Frequency of Review – Annual (unless required earlier)