

HARESTOCK PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL POLICY

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY (including Cyber)

Updated: Spring 2018

Changes: point 6 extended, new point 7 about websites and adding pupils knowing about SMART rules

Date: Spring term 2018

Review Date: Spring term 2020

We, at Harestock School, aim to foster a secure environment in which children are able to develop and learn freely without duress.

Bullying will not be tolerated in any shape or form. At Harestock we interpret bullying as repeated, persistent, deliberate and targeted unkind behaviour.

In order to achieve this:

1. Children will be positively encouraged to talk about any experiences or issues that are troubling them.
2. It is accepted that bullying can occur in many forms: cyber bullying, intimidation, physical abuse, racism, name calling, negative discrimination, graffiti, acute unkindness etc.
3. Staff and other adults working with the children must be vigilant in order to notice signs of bullying.
4. We follow the school Behaviour policy
5. It is expected that staff vigilance and good home/school links resulting in prompt action will reduce the incidence of bullying. The use of 'circle time' activities will allow the children to consider and reflect upon their actions in a secure, non-threatening way. It is hoped that good pastoral care will foster security and confidence; thus encouraging children to talk to their teachers about any matters of concern including bullying.

Class teachers make it quite clear that bullying will not be tolerated and this is regularly reinforced during assemblies for instance.

6. We deliver the PHSE curriculum, which includes Social, Emotional aspects to Learning materials, on a termly basis which focuses on various aspects of behaviour including how to cope with peer pressure and bullying and the Computing curriculum. Also, we participate in the Anti bullying week in November each year which includes key activities linked to cyber/IT safety.
7. We use nationally recognised websites such as www.bullying.co.uk/anti-bullying-week, www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk, www.thinkuknow.co.uk, www.kidscape.org, www.wiredsafety.org, www.bullying.co.uk/cyberbullying as well as other Hampshire based resources.
8. We provide additional opportunities for parents / carers to learn more about cyber-safety.

APPROVED 2018

9. We monitor IT usage on school equipment periodically.

Harestock Primary School believes that all people in our community have the right to teach and learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied. We believe that every individual in school has a duty to report an incident of bullying whether it happens to themselves or to another person.

What is cyber-bullying?

There are many types of cyber-bullying; research from the University of London identifies seven categories of cyber-bullying:

Text message bullying involves sending unwelcome texts that are threatening or cause discomfort.

Picture/video-clip bullying via mobile phone cameras is used to make the person being bullied feel threatened or embarrassed, with images usually sent to other people. 'Happy slapping' involves filming and sharing physical attacks.

Phone call bullying via mobile phones uses silent calls or abusive messages. Sometimes the bullied person's phone is stolen and used to harass others, who then think the phone owner is responsible.

Email bullying uses email to send bullying or threatening messages, often using a pseudonym for anonymity or using someone else's name to pin the blame on them.

Chat room bullying involves sending menacing or upsetting responses to children or young people when they are in a web-based chat room.

Bullying through instant messaging (IM) / social media is an internet-based form of bullying where children and young people are sent unpleasant messages as they conduct real-time conversations online (ie: Facebook, Bebo, Snapchat etc)

Bullying via websites includes the use of defamatory blogs (web logs), personal websites and online personal polling sites. There has been a significant increase in social networking sites for young people, which can provide new opportunities for cyber-bullying.

At Harestock Primary School, we take these forms of bullying as seriously as all other types of bullying and, therefore, will deal with each situation individually. Procedures are as follows:

- All bullying should be reported to an appropriate adult
- In all cases of bullying, the incidents should be recorded by staff in class communication files and reported to SLT who reported number of occasions termly to the governors
- Incidents will be investigated by an appropriate adult and measures put into place to prevent further occurrence. These measures may include:
 - interviewing both the bullied and the alleged bully
 - encouraging pupils to identify solutions
 - use of circle time / PSHE to resolve issues
 - loss of privileges for the bully
 - involving the parents (including resilience workshops)
 - if physical assault is involved the police may be notified
 - behaviour management strategies / support will be put in place for a period of time
- a follow up meeting with both the bullied and the bully, either separately or together, should help to ensure that matters have been dealt with in the longer term

At Harestock Primary School, pupils are taught, each year, how to:

- Understand how to use these technologies safely and know about the risks and consequences of misusing them
- Know what to do if they or someone they know are being cyber-bullied
- Report any problems with cyber-bullying – if they do have a problem they can talk to the school, parents, the police, mobile network provider or the internet service provider (ISP) to do something about it

What can you do as a parent?

- If you perceive that your child is being bullied contact the school immediately
- Don't wait for something to happen before you act. Make sure your child understands how to use technologies safely and knows the risks and consequences of misusing them
- Make sure you know what to do if they or someone they know are being bullied
- Encourage your child to talk to you if they have any problems with cyber-bullying. If they do have a problem, contact the school, the mobile network or the Internet Service Provider (ISP) to do something about it
- Parental control software can limit who your child sends emails to and who he/she receives them from. It can also block access to some chat rooms
- Make it your business to know what your child is doing online and who their online friends are
- Keep the computer in a public place in the house and periodically check on what your child is doing. Discuss the kinds of internet activities your child enjoys
- Watch out for secretive behaviour as you approach the computer, such as rapidly switching screens and for attempts to hide online behaviour such as an empty history file

What can you do as a pupil?

If you are being bullied, remember bullying is never your fault. It can be stopped and it can usually be traced.

- Don't ignore the bullying. Tell someone you trust such as an adult in school or parent, or call an advice line
- Try to keep calm. If you are frightened, try to show it as little as possible. Don't get angry, it will only make the person bullying you more likely to continue.
- Follow the SMART rules for online safety – the rules are displayed in the IT suite.

Monitoring and review

This policy is monitored regularly by the head teacher, who reports to governors about the effectiveness of the policy on request. It will be reviewed by staff and governors every 2 years.