

Anti – Bullying Policy Summary for Parents/Carers



At Parkside Primary School we believe that our pupils have the right to learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment. We have a zero-tolerance approach to bullying and all forms of child-on-child abuse.

What is bullying?

Bullying is behaviour by an individual or group, repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically, verbally, emotionally or online.

Bullying can include:

- **Physical** - hitting, kicking, pushing, taking another's belongings, any use of violence
- **Verbal** - name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- **Emotional** - being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting
- **Prejudice-based and discriminatory** - taunts, gestures or physical abuse focused on a particular characteristic (e.g., race, faith, gender, sexuality, disability)
- **Sexual** - explicit sexual remarks, display of sexual material, sexual gestures, unwanted physical attention, inappropriate touching
- **Cyber-bullying** - bullying that takes place online, such as through social networking sites, messaging apps, gaming sites, or via content generated by artificial intelligence (AI)

Abuse is abuse and should never be tolerated or passed off as 'banter' or 'part of growing up'.

How we prevent bullying

We prevent bullying by:

- Teaching children about bullying through anti-bullying workshops, assemblies and PSHE
- Teaching children how to manage relationships in a constructive way
- Providing worry boxes so children can report concerns
- Holding regular online safety workshops for pupils, staff and parents/carers
- Training all staff to identify and respond to bullying effectively

How to report bullying

We ask that all pupils report concerns of bullying to any member of school staff.

Pupils can also use our worry boxes if they find it difficult to speak to someone directly.

If you have concerns about your child experiencing or perpetrating bullying, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance. The teacher will take your concerns seriously and make a formal record on our recording system (CPOMS). If the report is urgent or if a pupil is at risk, the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Senior Leadership Team will be alerted immediately.

What happens when bullying is reported?

When bullying is reported, we will:

- Take it seriously and never ignore it
- Listen carefully to all accounts
- Keep detailed records on CPOMS
- Support all pupils involved

- Inform the Headteacher
- Refer pupils to our Pastoral Team to help develop strategies and build confidence
- Follow up to check bullying has not returned
- Keep parents/carers informed

Depending on the circumstances, our response could include:

- A written report and investigation
- Applying appropriate sanctions in line with our Behaviour Policy
- Referral to the Pastoral Team
- Referral to Early Help or Social Care if there is a risk of significant harm
- Suspension or permanent exclusion in serious cases
- Referral to the police if the incident is very serious

Bullying outside school

Bullying behaviour can take place both inside and outside of school, including on the way to and from school and online. If both the victim and the bully are from Parkside School, we will take action as if the incident occurred within school.

Our commitment to safeguarding

All forms of bullying are recognised as child-on-child abuse and are addressed within our safeguarding procedures. Where bullying incidents raise safeguarding concerns, they will be managed in line with our Child Protection Policy and may result in referrals to external agencies.

Working together

We ask that you:

- Come directly to the school with your concerns rather than discussing them with other members of the school community
- Work with us to keep your child safe
- If your child is responsible for bullying, work with us to agree a plan to prevent further incidents

Need help or want to make a complaint?

If you are not satisfied with our school's actions, please follow our school's complaint policy and procedures.

Further help and support:

- ChildLine: 0800 1111 | [childline.org.uk](https://www.childline.org.uk)
- Kidscape: 020 7730 3300 | info@kidscape.org.uk Anti-Bullying Policy - April 2026

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