



John Donne Primary School

Woods Road, Peckham, SE15 2SW

Anti-bullying policy

There are times in schools when, despite the best efforts to promote positive behaviour and self-esteem, we can become worried that a child is being bullied by another school member. It is important to differentiate between disagreements between pupils and actual instances of bullying.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/623895/P-reventing_and_tackling_bullying_advice.pdf

The school response to this document is to agree that bullying in any form and across any age-group is unacceptable. Bullying is anti-social behaviour and affects everyone; it is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Only when all issues of bullying are addressed will pupils be able to fully benefit from the opportunities available at schools. The aim of the anti-bullying policy is to ensure that pupils learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied.

Bullying is defined as deliberately hurtful behaviour, repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. The main types of bullying are:

- physical (hitting, kicking, theft)
- verbal (name calling, racist remarks)
- indirect (spreading rumours, excluding someone from social groups).
- cyber bullying

Pupils who are being bullied may show changes in behaviour, such as becoming shy and nervous, feigning illness, taking unusual absences or clinging to adults. There may be evidence of changes in work patterns, lacking concentration or truanting from school. Pupils must be encouraged to report bullying in school.

The structures in school are designed to support the victim and discourage the bully without embedding resentment or a sense of criticism or failure. Good behaviour management promotes self-esteem and confidence and therefore reduces the likelihood of bullying becoming established and builds life-skills which enable pupils to deal with challenging social situations throughout life. In addition, positive online behaviour is included in the schools acceptable use policy, and the children learn about how to keep themselves safe online through computing lessons.

All teaching and support staff must be alert to the signs of bullying and act promptly and firmly against it in accordance with school policy.

If we think bullying is taking place:

- The incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff who has been approached



National Support School
designated by

National College for
Teaching & Leadership



Tel: 020 7639 0594
E-mail: office@jdacademy.org.uk
Website: www.jdacademy.org.uk
Headteacher: Miss Jo Rooney
School Business Manager: Naz Begum
Company Number: 8791046

- A clear account of the incident will be recorded in writing by the class teacher or headteacher as appropriate
- The teacher/headteacher will interview all concerned and will record the interview in writing
- Class teachers will be kept informed if the incident is dealt with by the headteacher in the first incidence
- Parents will be informed
- Punitive measures will be used as appropriate in accordance with the school's behaviour policy

Pupils

Pupils who have been bullied will be supported by:

- offering an immediate opportunity to discuss the experience with the learning mentor or other staff member of their choice
- reassuring the pupil
- offering continuous support
- restoring self-esteem and confidence.

Pupils who have bullied will be helped by:

- discussing what happened
- discovering why the pupil became involved
- establishing the wrong doing and need to change
- informing parents or guardians to help change the attitude of the pupil.

Sanctions for bullying are in accordance with the school's behaviour policy.

Within the curriculum the school will raise the awareness of the nature of bullying through inclusion in PSHE, circle time and assemblies as appropriate, in an attempt to eradicate such behaviour.

Monitoring, evaluation and review

The school will review this policy annually with the behaviour policy and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

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