

Getting on Together

An Anti-Bullying Guide for Parents



**This leaflet is part of a series
produced by
The Grove Primary School to support our
Anti-Bullying Policy**

Why call these leaflets “Getting on Together”?

It reflects our commitment to everyone at school being “safe, happy and working well.” Bullying is a breakdown in that positive relationship.

Unkindness or aggression is often mistaken for bullying. We do not condone any such behaviour but we do deal differently with it.

What is bullying?

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

At The Grove, we have adopted the NSPCC acronym **STOP** to help us identify bullying and provide a definition.

Several
Times



There are three elements that are always present;

- the deliberate, planned and repeated use of aggression (verbal or physical).
- an unequal power relationship.
- the outcome is always painful and/or distressing for the victim.

What does the school do?

We recognise that bullying sometimes occurs in our school as in all others, but when any incidents of bullying behaviour occur, we have a clear policy to which all staff and governors have agreed.

- We always investigate incidents immediately and very thoroughly following the 'Anti-bullying Flowchart'.
- We talk to everyone involved and to anyone who might have witnessed anything.
- In all instances we involve the children in finding a solution and in trying to rectify the situation.
- We are aware that Primary School children are increasingly using technologies such as the Internet and mobile phones to communicate; we will treat reports of cyber-bullying involving members of the school community in the same fashion as any other report of bullying regardless of whether it has occurred within, or away from, the school setting.
- We aim to help the person doing the bullying as well as the person being bullied, in order to prevent further problems.
- We record the incident and our Family Link Workers or a member of staff from our Inclusion/Safeguarding Team is then assigned to the situation to monitor it, provide support and to have regular feedback from those involved. The Headteacher will always be informed about what is happening.
- We keep parents up to date with the situation for as long as is appropriate and welcome their positive involvement.



What should you do if your child is upset
by the behaviour of others?

- Talk to him/her to find out what happened and the background to the incident – what happened yesterday/five minutes before.
- Has this happened before? Was anyone else involved?
- Consider if he/she may have been a victim of inappropriate behaviour or bullying (see definition).
- If it was inappropriate behaviour, contact the class teacher.
- If it was bullying, contact the Class Teacher who will inform the Headteacher, Deputy Head or Assistant Headteacher immediately.
- Please don't advise your child to respond or retaliate in the same aggressive way, as we wouldn't tolerate that either.

And then....?

- Give your child more opportunities to talk to you about their feelings and what is happening.
- However, beware of making it the first or only thing that you talk about – discuss lots of positive things about school and friends as well.
- Tell your child that you expect things to improve, and support them and school staff as the problem is dealt with.
- Please don't feel that you need to try to solve a problem that happens in school directly yourself.



Thank you for your partnership in preventing and tackling bullying effectively.

Further help

The full **Anti-Bullying Policy** can be found on the school website (or via the school office).

Anti-bullying Alliance – the alliance brings together over 60 organisations into one network with the aim of reducing bullying. Their website has a parent section with links to recommended organisations that can help with bullying issues.

www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Kidscape

www.kidscape.org.uk

Their helpline for parents – 08451 205 204

NSPCC

help@nspcc.org.uk – 0808 800 5000

Bullying UK

www.bullying.co.uk

Their helpline – 0808 800 2222