



# Mount Pleasant School

## Anti-bullying Policy

### Date of next review – September 2020

The aim of our anti-bullying policy is to ensure that our children learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied. 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 children be able to fully benefit from the opportunities available at schools.

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 three main types of bullying are:

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

At Mount Pleasant School we are aware of the increase in Cyber Bullying e.g. malicious text messages, emails or instant messages. The school takes the following actions:

- Children will not use the internet without appropriate supervision
- All KS1 and KS2 children will sign an 'Agreement for the acceptable use of the internet, emails and computers' contract
- Mobile phones are not allowed in school

Children 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. Children must be encouraged to report bullying in schools.

Teaching and support staff are alert to the signs of bullying and act promptly and firmly against it in accordance with school policy. Effective induction for new staff and families and regular meetings ensure that there are clear procedures to prevent bullying among children and that these are understood by the community.

The following steps are taken when dealing with incidents:

- If bullying is suspected or reported, the incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff who has been approached
- A clear account of the incident will be recorded and given to the headteacher
- The headteacher will interview all concerned and will record the incident
- Class teachers will be kept informed and if it persists the class teacher will advise the appropriate members of staff
- Parents will be kept informed
- Appropriate measures will be taken, in consultation with all parties concerned.

A child who has been bullied will be supported by:

- offering an immediate opportunity to discuss the experience with a member of staff
- reassuring the child
- offering continuous support
- restoring self-esteem and confidence.

A child who has bullied will be helped by:

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

Bullying is not acceptable at our School

At Mount Pleasant School we will raise the awareness of the nature of bullying through a number of ways such as inclusion in PSHE sessions, assemblies and class themes, in order to ensure that such behaviour does not occur and to raise awareness of what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour.

All our children know that if they are being bullied they must tell someone straight away. they are aware that bullying is taken very seriously and is acted on immediately.

If your child reports that they are being bullied at school, please let us know straight away. We will monitor the situation very carefully and keep you informed.

All incidents of inappropriate behaviour are recorded and parents of both children are always informed about the incident and the action that has been taken.

There are many websites that provide information and support for parents and children including [www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk) and [www.cyberbullying.org](http://www.cyberbullying.org)



## Mount Pleasant School

### Agreement for the acceptable use of the internet, e-mails and computers

At Mount Pleasant School, we understand the importance and benefits of using computers to help with children's learning and personal development. However, we also recognise that safeguards need to be in place to ensure children are kept safe at all times.

Please could parents/carers read and discuss this agreement with their child and then sign the attached form and return it to the school office. We have included two copies in order for you to keep the other one for reference.

- I will only use IT in school for school purposes.
- I will only use any class e-mail address or any school e-mail address of my own when e-mailing.
- I will only open e-mail attachments from people I know, or who my teacher has approved.
- I will not tell other people my password.
- I will only open my own files.
- I will make sure that all IT contact with other children and adults is responsible, polite and sensible.
- I will not send anyone material that could be considered threatening, bullying, offensive or illegal.
- I will not deliberately look for, save or send anything that could be unpleasant or nasty.  
If I accidentally find anything like this I will tell my teacher immediately.
- I will not give out my own details such as my name, phone number or home address.
- I will not arrange to meet someone unless this is part of a school project approved by my teacher and a responsible adult comes with me.
- I will be responsible for my behaviour when using IT because I know that these rules are to keep me safe.
- I will support the school approach to online safety and not deliberately upload or add any images, video, sounds or text that could upset any member of the school community.
- I know that my use of IT can be checked and that my parent/ carer contacted if a member of school staff is concerned about my e-safety.



## School's copy

Please sign and return this copy to school

<b>Mount Pleasant School</b> <b>Agreement for the acceptable use of the internet, e-mails and computers</b> Please complete, sign and return to the school office.	
<b>Pupil:</b>	<b>Class:</b>
<b>Pupil's agreement:</b> I have read and understood the school rules on the acceptable use of the internet, e-mails and computers. I will use the computer system and internet in a responsible way and obey these rules at all times.	
<b>Signed:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
<b>Parents' consent for internet access:</b> I have read and understood the school rules for acceptable use of the internet, e-mails and computers and give permission for my son/daughter to access the internet. I understand that the school will take all reasonable precautions to ensure that pupils cannot access inappropriate materials. I understand that the school cannot be held responsible for the nature or content of materials accessed through the internet. I agree that the school is not liable for any damages arising from use of the internet facilities.	
<b>Signed:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
<b>Please print name:</b>	
<b>Parents' consent for web publication of work and photographs:</b> I agree that, if selected, my son/daughter's work may be published on the school website. I also agree that photographs that include my son/daughter may be published subject to the school rules that photographs will not clearly identify individuals and that full names will not be used.	
<b>Signed:</b>	<b>Date:</b>

