



# Mount Pleasant School

## Anti-bullying Policy

### 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)

**Date of next review – September 2021**