

## Abbey Grange C of E Academy **Policies & Procedures**

Policy Title: Anti Bullying Policy

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| <b>Approved on</b>     | 05.01.2026            |
| <b>Approved by</b>     | Local Governing Board |
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## Contents

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Introduction.....            | 2 |
| What is bullying? .....      | 2 |
| Cyber bullying.....          | 2 |
| The effects of bullying..... | 2 |
| How to report bullying.....  | 3 |
| Anti-Bullying Week.....      | 3 |
| Sanctions.....               | 3 |
| Restorative Practice.....    | 4 |

## **Introduction**

This Anti-Bullying policy has been written by the staff and students of Abbey Grange Academy. It acknowledges the school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010, Education and Inspectors Act 2006 and DfE Guidance on Preventing and Tackling Bullying July 2017. This should be read alongside the Child-on-Child Abuse policy, Behaviour policy and Fixed Term Exclusion policy.

## **What is bullying?**

*Bullying is behaviour by an individual or group, repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group physically or emotionally*

## **Cyber bullying**

The rapid development of technology has provided a new medium called 'virtual' bullying which can occur outside school. This is a problem which presents most often with young people, mainly through the use of mobile phones via text messaging and social networking sites such as Facebook, Tiktok, Snapchat etc. This is an offence in Law and is happening at home not within school. In school we take secure measures to ensure e-safety; any parental concerns should be addressed to the Police or internet provider.

Whilst we will act to help deal with these issues, it is vital that parents are aware of the way these electronic systems can create real issues.

## **The effects of bullying**

All forms of bullying are hurtful and many have a devastating effect on those who are bullied.

Whilst some children may recover from bullying, there are others who suffer lasting consequences.

Bullies may also suffer long-lasting consequences and if offered no support, may continue with bullying behaviour into their adult lives. For this reason, it is important that they receive support to enable them to change their behaviour. Children who observe bullying taking place but stand and watch are entering into the act of bullying. Equally, therefore, all children must be encouraged to report bullying incidents to somebody at school as we are a "telling" school.

Creating a secure environment is crucial for effective learning and ensures that all students' rights to flourish within a positive school experience are met. It follows that any anti-bullying policy and its implementation must be an integral part of the curriculum we offer our students.

As a school our policy is clear:

- All bullying will be acted upon, therefore every person who is a part of AGA has a responsibility to take action

- We will explicitly address the issues of bullying regularly and thoroughly through both the PSHCE and assembly programme, and in Anti Bullying Week
- The organisation, administration and practices within the school will reflect the commitment to the prevention of bullying
- We will actively encourage and develop an environment which allows students to talk confidentially about fears and problems. This in turn allows teachers to reassure and counsel students and to deal with the issue of bullying as it arises in the day to day life of the school.
- All staff are aware that children can abuse other children (often referred to child on child abuse) and that it can happen both inside and outside of school and online.
- All staff adhere to guidance and are clear as to the school's policy and procedures with regard to child-on-child abuse and the important role they have to play in preventing it and responding where they believe a child may be at risk to it

### **How to report bullying**

If a student feels she/he is being bullied, they can report this fact to any member of our staff or an Anti-Bullying Ambassador.

Students or parents can also complete the online Anti Bullying concern form or send a discreet e-mail to [stopbullying@abbeygrangeacademy.co.uk](mailto:stopbullying@abbeygrangeacademy.co.uk)

Students at AGA have a vital role in the prevention of bullying and our Anti Bullying Ambassadors in each year group have been trained to help prevent any bullying issues or assist in the support of other students in school.

All staff have been trained in reporting any bullying incidents and have the responsibility to record it on cpoms and take actions around this.

### **Anti-Bullying Week**

During Anti-Bullying Week in November a number of activities will be organised for students throughout Y7 to Y13. Anti-Bullying Week has the following objectives for staff, students and parents/carers:

- Understand what Bullying is and the consequences it can have
- Know and understand the different types of bullying
- Know and understand how to report bullying at AGA
- Reflection on how our Christian vision and values guide how we treat each other

### **Sanctions**

Any sanctions related to bullying are determined by the Year Manager, Achievement Director and Assistant Principal for Care and Conduct. These will be recorded on cpoms and Class Charts.

There are different levels of bullying and this will be taken into account when deciding on any course of action.

Actions are taken which are firm but fair and which take account of each individual case.

Sanctions include:

- Detentions
- Work to enhance the school and change of lessons, short or long term
- Bullying may also result in exclusion from the school community, Suspension, and ultimately Permanent exclusion.

### **Restorative Practice**

After any incident of bullying, all parties will be asked to attend a Restorative Practice meeting to repair any harm caused. This will be arranged by a member of the pastoral team when everyone is comfortable and ready, in a controlled and safe environment.

Parents/Carers of the bully will be asked to come into school if bullying continues.

Parents of the victim will always be consulted and given feedback.

### **All reported incidents of bullying will be acted upon quickly.**

To report any bullying please call school on 0113 275 7877 or email us at [stopbullying@abbeygrangeacademy.co.uk](mailto:stopbullying@abbeygrangeacademy.co.uk)