



St Catherine's Catholic Primary School



Anti-Bullying Policy

Date of approval:	22 nd June 2026
Review Date:	23 rd June 2027
Approved by:	Lisa Hoey
Changes made:	Addition of cyberbullying and clearer procedure
Date approved by LGC (Local Governing Committee):	6 th July 2026

Mission Statement

At St Catherine's, we shine bright by learning, loving, and caring in an environment where we feel safe, happy, and confident. We believe everyone is special and made in God's image. We help each other grow and share our gifts to make the world a better place.

We believe in:

- Being kind, respectful, and fair to everyone (service)
- Living like Jesus in and out of school (honesty)
- Celebrating everyone's achievements, big or small (inspire)
- Nurturing our relationships with families, parish, and communities (nurturing)
- Valuing our differences and learning from each other (embracing)

We let our light shine brightly for all to see.

Introduction

At St Catherine's, we are committed to providing a caring, loving, and safe environment where all pupils feel secure, valued, and respected. Bullying of any kind is not tolerated and will be addressed promptly and effectively.

We work in partnership with pupils, parents, and carers to prevent bullying and to ensure that all members of our school community understand how to recognise and respond to it.

This policy reflects statutory guidance and legislation, including the Equality Act 2010 and *Working Together to Safeguard Children*. It should be read alongside the Safeguarding, Behaviour, and Equality policies.

Definition of Bullying

Bullying is:

A sustained or repeated action, carried out intentionally, which causes harm to another individual.

Bullying can negatively impact a child's emotional and physical wellbeing.

Types of bullying include:

- Verbal (name-calling, insults)
- Physical (hitting, pushing)
- Emotional/social (excluding, spreading rumours)
- Cyberbullying (online or via technology)
- Discriminatory bullying (related to protected characteristics)

Bullying is **not**:

- One-off incidents of rude or unkind behaviour (though these are taken seriously and addressed)

Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying involves the use of technology such as mobile phones, tablets, computers, or gaming platforms to harm others.

This may include:

- Sending unkind or threatening messages
- Sharing images or information to embarrass others
- Excluding others from online groups
- Impersonating someone online

We recognise that cyberbullying can occur both in and outside school.

Our approach:

- Pupils are taught online safety through PSHE and computing
- Pupils are encouraged to report concerns to a trusted adult
- Incidents are dealt with in line with this policy
- We work with parents/carers and external agencies where needed

Message to pupils: *Be kind online as well as offline.*

Preventing Bullying

We take a proactive approach by:

- Promoting respect, inclusion, and equality across school life
- Teaching anti-bullying through PSHE, assemblies, and collective worship
- Supporting Anti-Bullying Week
- Encouraging pupil voice through School Council
- Providing staff training on safeguarding and wellbeing
- Sharing guidance and support with parents/carers

Roles and Responsibilities

Staff will:

- Model respectful behaviour
- Take all concerns seriously and act promptly
- Be alert to signs of bullying
- Record and report incidents
- Support pupils involved
- Communicate effectively with parents/carers

Pupils are expected to:

- Treat others with kindness and respect
- Report bullying to a trusted adult
- Support others by speaking up (bystander awareness)
- Use worry boxes where needed

Parents/Carers will:

- Encourage children to report concerns
- Inform the school of any concerns
- Support the school in resolving issues
- Respect confidentiality

Reporting and Responding to Bullying

All concerns are taken seriously and responded to promptly.

Step-by-Step Procedure**1. Report**

Concerns may be raised by pupils, staff, parents/carers, or peers.

2. Initial Response

Staff will listen, reassure, and take the concern seriously.

3. Recording

- All incidents are recorded on CPOMS
- Safeguarding concerns are reported immediately to the DSL

4. Investigation

- All parties are spoken to individually
- A clear account is established

5. Parent Communication

Parents/carers are informed where appropriate.

6. Action and Support

Appropriate action is taken, including:

- Support for the child experiencing bullying
- Guidance for the child displaying bullying behaviour
- Restorative approaches
- Sanctions in line with the Behaviour Policy

7. Monitoring

- Ongoing checks ensure the situation is resolved

8. Escalation

Serious or persistent cases are:

- Referred to the Headteacher/DSL
- Managed under Safeguarding procedures

Support for Pupils Experiencing Bullying

We prioritise the wellbeing of all pupils.

Support includes:

- A named trusted adult
- Regular check-ins
- Opportunities to talk
- Nurture and pastoral support
- Support during break/lunchtimes
- Help rebuilding confidence and friendships
- Parental communication
- Referral to external services where needed

Ongoing Monitoring

- Situations are closely monitored
- Further action is taken if concerns continue

Responses to Bullying Behaviour

Responses are proportionate and may include:

- Discussion and restorative approaches
- Increased supervision or support
- Removal from class where necessary
- Parental involvement
- Referral to external agencies
- Sanctions (including suspension or exclusion where required)

Recording, Monitoring and Review

- All incidents are recorded on CPOMS
- Patterns and trends are reviewed by the Headteacher and safeguarding team termly
- Governors review the effectiveness of this policy annually

Child-on-Child Abuse

Some incidents may constitute child-on-child abuse.

This may include:

- Physical, emotional, or sexual abuse
- Exploitation or harmful behaviours

All such concerns are:

- Reported immediately to the DSL
- Managed in line with the Safeguarding Policy