

Hospital and Outreach Education PRU

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Statement of Intent

“To provide access to appropriate education for all children and young people with medical and mental health needs, keeping education alive in the pupil’s life, maintaining progress and enabling them to achieve their potential.”

Hospital and Outreach Education (HOE) is committed to providing safe, nurturing, friendly and personalised learning environments for all of our pupils to enable them to learn to the best of their abilities.

Objectives of this Policy

- Management Committee members, teaching and non-teaching staff, visitors, pupils and parents will have an understanding of what bullying is.
- Management Committee members, teaching, non-teaching staff and visitors will know and understand what the HOE policy is on bullying, and the procedures to follow when bullying is reported.
- All pupils and parents will understand what the HOE policy is on bullying, what they should do if bullying arises, and how it will be dealt with

What Is Bullying?

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person. This includes both physical and emotional bullying. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

Bullying can be:

- Emotional being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures)
- Physical pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Racist racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Sexual unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
- Homophobic because of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality
- Verbal name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- Religious related to religious beliefs and practices
- Cultural related to cultural beliefs and practices
- Cyber All areas of internet, such as email & internet chat room misuse
Mobile threats by text messaging & calls
Misuse of associated technology , i.e. camera & video facilities
(See appendix 1 for more details)
- Due to SEN or disabilities
- Related to appearance of health conditions
- Related to home circumstances

Signs and Symptoms

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that he or she is being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and that they should investigate if a child:

- is frightened of walking to or from outreach bases or school

- doesn't want to go on the public bus
- changes his/her usual routine
- has changes in moods
- is unwilling to go to a base or school
- begins to not attend teaching sessions
- runs away
- says he/she is feeling unwell e.g. stomach aches
- becomes withdrawn, anxious, or lacking in confidence
- starts stammering
- attempts or threatens suicide
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- feels ill in the morning
- begins to do poorly in academic work
- has possessions which are damaged or " go missing"
- asks for money or starts stealing money
- has monies continually "lost"
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- is bullying other children or siblings
- stops eating
- is frightened to say what's wrong
- gives improbable excuses for any of the above
- is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone
- is nervous & jumpy when a cyber message is received

These signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated

Procedures

1. Pupils will be encouraged to report bullying incidents to staff. All pupils have a core worker that they can go to if they have any issues.
2. Pupil bystanders will be encouraged and supported to report any incidents of bullying that they have witnessed
3. In cases of serious bullying, the incidents will be recorded by staff on safeguarding cause for concern form
4. In all cases, parents of both parties will be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem (separately or together as appropriate).
5. If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted
6. The bullying incident will be investigated and strategies put in place to prevent it happening in the future.
7. All pupils involved in the incident (victim and perpetrator) will be provided with appropriate support if required.

The Head Teacher will be responsible for co-ordinating all the reported incidents and analysing any emerging patterns. She will report to the Management Committee and feedback to on staff any action points arising to implement to improve practice.

Prevention

Measures that will be taken to prevent bullying within the Hospital and Outreach bases include:

- Agreeing a set of base rules

- signing the a positive behaviour for learning agreement
- participating in activities during anti-bullying week
- involving pupils in drawing up the anti-bullying charter for HOE
- writing stories or poems or drawing pictures about bullying
- reading stories about bullying
- making up role-plays
- having discussions about bullying and why it matters in PSHE sessions
- provision of activities to build resilience, self-confidence and self esteem
- pupil awareness raising sessions on inappropriate use of the internet for bullying e.g. cyberbullying, sexting and how to deal with incidents
- parent awareness raising sessions on inappropriate use of the internet for bullying e.g. cyberbullying, sexting and how to deal with incidents
- involving staff in anti-bullying training activities including how to advise children and young people to stay safe online.

HELP ORGANISATIONS:

Childline	0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk
Advisory Centre for Education (ACE)	020 7354 8321
Children's Legal Centre	0845 345 4345
KIDSCAPE Parents Helpline (Mon-Fri, 10-4)	0845 1 205 204
Parentline Plus	0808 800 2222
Youth Access	020 8772 9900
Bullying Online	www.bullying.co.uk

Visit the Kidscape website www.kidscape.org.uk for further support , links and advice.

APPENDIX 1 – CYBERBULLYING POLICY

Young people have fully embraced the use of information and communication technologies for a variety of activities, including to maintain contact with friends and make new ones. Activities include sending e-mails, creating their own websites, posting intimate personal news in blogs (online interactive diaries), sending text messages and images via mobile phones, messaging each other through direct messaging, using vlogs, social media (Snapchat, Twitter, Instagram, Ask FM, Skype, chatting via Playstation network and X-Box Live..

While most interactions are positive, there are increasing reports of these technologies being used to harass and intimidate others. This has become known as cyber bullying.

Definition

- **Cyber bullying** is when someone is tormented, threatened, harassed, humiliated, embarrassed, or otherwise targeted by another child, pre-teen or teen using the Internet, interactive and digital technologies or mobile phones. It has to be a minor on both sides, or at least have been instigated by a minor against another minor.

- www.stopcyberbullying.org

Hospital and Outreach Education is committed to developing a safe environment where the students act respectfully and positively towards each other in acceptable and non-threatening ways.

Procedures

Staff at HOE have the responsibility to ensure that:

- staff are aware of cyber bullying and are able to identify and look for signs of occurrence among the pupils
- pupils are aware of the consequences of cyber bullying
- a code of conduct is in use for technology, including computers and mobile phones, whilst on the school premises
- all cases of cyber bullying are reported to the leader of learning in the first instance, and responded to promptly
- incidents of cyber bullying are treated in line with safeguarding procedures
- there is supervision of technology that is effective for monitoring and deterring cyber bullying

Pupils at HOE have a responsibility to ensure that they:

- do not participate in cyber bullying
- do not use mobile phones, cameras or other digital devices to record audio and visual material that is not authorised as part of the PRU curriculum program
- do not breach the privacy of students, staff and members of the PRU community through any unauthorised recording or filming
- do not disseminate inappropriate information through digital media or other means
- report incidents of cyber bullying to a member of staff
- advise other pupils being victimised by cyber bullying to talk to an adult
- offer to speak to an adult on behalf of the student who is being victimised by cyber bullying