



GREEN CRESCENT PRIMARY

Anti-Bullying Policy

| Document Information | | | |
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A Muslim is a brother of the Muslim. He should not be wronged, insulted, or belittled. (Muslim)

The Prophet (SAWS) said: **"The believer is not a person who hurts others with words, or curses, or swears, or is foul-mouthed."** [Al-Bukhari]

At Green Crescent Primary School we believe that all pupils have a right to play and learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without the fear of being bullied. We promote good behaviour. It is made clear that bullying is a form of anti-Islamic and anti-social behaviour and will not be tolerated. Parents, children, staff are fully aware that any bullying complaints will be dealt with firmly, fairly and promptly. What is Bullying?

School bullying is defined as deliberate and hurtful behaviour that takes place in schools. It can be:

- Physical: (punching, kicking, hitting, spitting at, etc.
- Verbal: (name calling. It may be directed towards gender, ethnic origin, physical/social disability, personality, etc. taunting, mocking, sarcasm, offensive or humiliating comments
- Emotional: (threatening, tormenting, showing hostile and unfriendly behaviour, spreading hurtful and untruthful rumours, laughing and sniggering in an unkind way, giving dirty looks and hand gestures etc.
- Exclusion: A child can be bullied simply by being excluded from discussions/activities.
- Damage to Property or Theft: Pupils may have their property damaged or stolen. Physical threats may be used by the bully in order that the pupil hands over property to them.
- Cyber: Misuse of all areas of Internet such as email, chat room etc.

Some young people may be bullied because of their skin color, religion, the way they talk, their size, their name,

and they look like they won't stand up for themselves. Children who are being bullied may feel lonely, unhappy, unsafe, and frightened. They may develop stomach aches, nightmares, nervousness, and anxiety.

What is NOT Bullying

- Bullying is not the odd occasion of falling out with friends, arguments, calling of names or when an occasional trick or joke is played on someone.
- It is bullying if it is done several times on purpose.
- Children sometimes fall out or say things because they are upset. When occasionally, problems of this nature arises, it is not bullying.
- It is an important part of children's development to learn how to deal with friendship breakdown.

Children will have to be taught on how to deal with these situations and develop social skills to build up friendships.

WHAT DOES ISLAM SAY ABOUT BULLYING?

Surah Al-Hujurat (49:11) tells us at least four things:

- 1) "No" to laughing at each other
- 2) "No" to defaming each other
- 3) "No" to being sarcastic to each other
- 4) "No" bullying

Surah Ar-Rum (30:22) introduces the concept of diversity in the universe. All creation of Allah shows diversity of some kind. This idea of diversity is linked to equality of all people and all students. Their structure, form, appearance, colour are made by Allah. We should celebrate diversity and respect it. We should not use it to make fun of others. It is unfair to blame other students for something beyond their control. They were born like this. No two people are created alike and this is a miracle.

Surah Az-Zumar highlights the fact that it is Allah who is the creator of all things, and He is the Guardian and Disposer of all things. Allah is the only Subject and all of us are His objects. Refrain from mocking any creation of Allah because criticism of the object is also a criticism of the Subject. Two simple examples could be given. The carpenter makes a chair; a criticism of the chair reflects upon the carpenter; a bad chair, a bad carpenter. If you hire a painter to paint your house and you criticise the paint, you are also criticising the painter; a bad paint, a bad painter.

In a Hadith a Muslim is defined as follows. *"A Muslim is the one from whose tongue and hand, people are safe."* A Muslim, by definition, cannot bully using his tongue (verbal bullying) or his hand (physical bullying). Hand is used here to refer to all body parts like head, leg, and knee ... etc.

Anas (RA) said: *"The Prophet (SAWS) never used foul language or cursed, or swore."*

A True Muslim's tongue will refrain from uttering curses or foul language. He does not swear, curse, or use bad language; he also does not bear to hear such words.

A true Muslim restrains his anger and is forgiving. He does not see any shame in doing so; rather he sees it as a good deed which will bring him closer to Allah (SWT).

The Prophet said: **"Among the best of you are those who have the best attitude (towards others)"**.

He (SAWS) also said: "**Nothing will weigh more heavily in the balance of the believing servant on the Day of Resurrection than a good attitude (towards others). Verily Allah hates those who utter vile words and obscene.**

The true Muslim has a good attitude. He is humble and soft and gentle in his speech. He does not use bad language or insult others. He is patient, gentle, forgiving, tolerant, cheerful, and sincere towards others.

FORMS OF BULLYING

Bullying can take many different forms and is behaviour that intentionally and persistently causes distress to others.

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| <p style="text-align: center;">PHYSICAL BULLYING</p> <p>e.g. hitting; pushing; kicking; tripping; spitting; hair pulling; throwing things; interfering with another's property by stealing / hiding / damaging / intruding upon it;</p> <p>- extortion / threatening demands for money or other items</p> <p>- writing or drawing offensive notes / graffiti about another</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">VERBAL BULLYING</p> <p>e.g. name calling; insulting or offensive remarks; accusing; taunting; put downs</p> <p>- ridiculing another's appearance/way of speaking/disability/personal mannerisms/race/colour/religion;</p> <p>- humiliating another publicly</p> <p>- spreading malicious or nasty rumours; threatening; intimidation; mocking; sarcasm</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">EMOTIONAL BULLYING</p> <p>e.g. excluding/shunning others from group activity/social setting or play;</p> <p>- belittling another's abilities or achievements;</p> <p>- menacing looks/stares;</p> <p>- rude signs or gestures</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">CYBER BULLYING</p> <p>e.g. misuse of e-mails, images, text, blogs, tweets, forums and chat rooms to hurt /embarrass /demean /harass /provoke or humiliate another using perceived anonymity</p> <p>- misuse of mobile phones by text messaging /calls or images – again to hurt /embarrass /demean /harass /provoke or humiliate another using perceived anonymity</p> <p>- unauthorised publication or manipulation of private information; impersonation</p> |

These categories may be inter-related

Signs of stress in pupils which may indicate Bullying

- Child's unwillingness to attend school / lateness /erratic attendance.
- Avoidance, hanging back from playground or staying late at school.
- Deterioration of work or mislaid books, money, equipment or belongings / under achievement.
- Spurious illness / non specific pains, headaches, tummy upsets, withdrawn, loss of appetite.

- Nail biting / flinching / jumpiness / forgetfulness / distractibility.
- Impulsive hitting out / out of character temper, flare up or restlessness / sudden aggressiveness.
- Stresses manifested at home – bed wetting / insomnia / nightmares / restlessness and irritability.
- Reluctance to sit beside or near certain pupils / hesitant to walk home.

(N.B. whilst these behaviours may be symptomatic of other problems – bullying may be one reason)

WHAT CAN CHILDREN DO IF THEY ARE BEING BULLIED?

Each term or when incidents occur, bullying will be discussed and the following strategies will be reinforced:

- Remember that your silence is the bully's greatest weapon.
- Tell yourself that you do not deserve to be bullied and that it is wrong.
Be proud of who you are. It is good to be individual.
- Try not to show that you are upset. It is hard, but a bully thrives on someone's fear.
- Stay with a group of friends/people. There is safety in numbers.
- Be assertive – shout "No!" Walk confidently away. Go straight to a member of staff.
- Fighting back may make things worse.
- Generally it is best to tell an adult you trust straight away. You will get immediate support. Teachers will take you seriously and will deal with the bullies in a way which will end the bullying and will not make things worse for you.

WHAT DO YOU DO IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE IS BEING BULLIED?

- Take action! Watching and doing nothing looks as if you are on the side of the bully. It makes the victim feel more unhappy and on their own.
- If you feel you cannot get involved, tell an adult immediately. Teachers will deal with the bully without getting you into trouble.
- Do not be, or pretend to be, friends with a bully.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that he or she is being bullied. Adults should investigate if a child:

- is unwilling to go to school
- begins truanting
- becomes withdrawn, anxious, or lacking in confidence
- starts stammering
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- feels ill in the morning
- begins to do poorly in school work
- comes home with clothes torn or books damaged
- has possessions go "missing"
- asks for money or starts stealing money (to pay bully)
- has dinner or other monies continually "lost"
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- is bullying other children or siblings
- stops eating
- is afraid to use the internet
- bedwetting
- is frightened to say what's wrong.

ROLE OF PARENTS

Parents have an important part to play in our anti-bullying policy. We ask parents to:

- Look out for unusual behaviour in your children – i.e. reluctance to attend school, feel ill regularly, or not complete work to their usual standard.
- Always take an active role in your child's education. Enquire how their day has gone, who they have spent their time with, etc.
- If you feel your child may be a victim of bullying behaviour, inform school immediately. Your complaint will be taken seriously and appropriate action will follow.
- If a child has bullied your child, please do not approach that child on the playground or involve an older child to deal with the bully. Please inform school immediately.
- It is important that you advise your child not to fight back. It can make matters worse!
- Tell your child that it is not their fault that they are being bullied and make sure your child is not afraid to ask for help.
- If you know your child is involved in bullying, please discuss the issues with them and inform school. The matter will be dealt with appropriately.

WHAT WILL THE SCHOOL DO?

- Use any opportunity to discuss the appropriate way to behave towards each other, including Islamic morals and characteristics.
- Encourage children to discuss how to get on with other people and form positive attitudes towards other people.
- Encourage children to treat everyone with respect.
- The staff will continue to have a firm but fair approach to behaviour management.
- Display posters in classrooms and corridors of Rules/Code of conduct. A list of rules will be decided by pupils themselves in a whole school activity/competition.
- Deal quickly, firmly and fairly with any complaints, involving parents where necessary.

STRATEGIES FOR THE PREVENTING AND REDUCING OF BULLYING

Implement whole school initiatives and proactive teaching strategies to develop a positive learning environment with the aim of reducing the opportunities for bullying to occur. These can include:

- Monitor the extent of bullying in the school and the effectiveness of the anti-bullying policy
- Produce a 'child friendly' version of the policy for the children
- Each class agreeing on their own set of class rules
- Making national anti-bullying week a high profile event each year
- Have regular assemblies on bullying
- Have circle time on bullying issues
- Children writing stories and poems and drawing pictures about bullying
- Children being read stories about bullying
- Using drama activities and role-plays to help children be more assertive and confident and teach them strategies to help them deal with bullying situations
- Display anti-bullying posters produced by the children around prominent areas of the school
- Have a confidential complaint box in each classroom where children can write and post their concerns.

PROCEDURE TO REPORT BULLYING

This is a set of guidelines for teachers to follow if they suspect a child is being bullied or if an incidence of bullying is reported to them.

Teachers should:

- Never ignore any suspected bullying

- Should not make premature assumptions about bullying
- Listen carefully to all accounts to gain a full picture of what has happened
- A problem solving approach needs to be adopted not focusing on blame but on practically solving the problem to minimise the reoccurrence
- Any investigation needs to be followed up to check that the bullying has not resumed or taken another form

STRATEGIES FOR DEALING WITH BULLYING

If bullying is suspected and depending on the perceived seriousness of the situation, the following steps will be followed. We emphasise on a caring, listening approach as bullies are often victims too – that is why they bully.

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| 1 | Talk to the suspected victim, and any witnesses. |
| 2 | Identify the suspected bully and talk about what has happened, to discover why they became involved. Make it clear that bullying is not tolerated at Green Crescent Primary School. |
| 3 | If the bully owns up then sanctions procedures outlined in the Policy will be followed. |
| 4 | Incidents of bullying are recorded as such in the School Incident Log. |
| 5 | If the suspected bully does not own up, investigate further. If it is clear that they are lying, continue with the procedure. |
| 6 | Inform parents if deemed necessary. |
| 7 | Continue monitoring the situation to ensure no repetition. The follow-up findings will be recorded in the school Incident Log. |

PROTOCOL FOR TEACHERS ON INCIDENTS OF BULLYING

- Listen carefully and with consideration to all reports of bullying
- Never ignore a problem or an incidence of bullying
- Identify all sides of the incident so that you are fully aware of the situation
- Talk to all pupils involved
- Attempt to resolve the situation with both sides sitting and discussing the incident together
- The incident needs to be recorded in the *Incident sheet* (located in the teacher’s file in each class) by circling the letter ‘B’ for bullying. Details need to include: date, time, names of those in involved, account of what was seen, heard or said (Refer to Child Protection Policy on questioning and Behaviour Policy for appropriate sanctioning).
- Serious incidents need to be reported to the Head Teacher
- Follow up with the discipline procedures outlined in the Behaviour Policy
- If necessary and appropriate, the Child Protection Officer in school, Social Services or police will be consulted

PROCEDURE FOR THE HEAD TEACHER

Once an incident is serious enough to be reported to the Head Teacher, the following procedure needs to be followed:

- Read the incident(s) recorded in the Incident sheet
- Discuss with the teacher reporting the incident
- Listen carefully to all sides of the argument
- Establish how regularly the incident/bullying has been going on for
- Establish whether the discipline procedures have been exhausted
- If incident is serious or continuous then engage parents of both the child that is bullying and being bullied

POLICY ON INVOLVING PARENTS

When parents are contacted to discuss the problem and solutions that will be put in place, great care needs to be taken on the approach. This is a very sensitive subject for both parents involved and it is more productive to discuss the solution at length rather than the problem. The following points are guidelines for involving parents.

- Approach parents in a calm manner
- Involve the parents constructively
- Use a problem solving approach
- When approaching the parents of the bully, approach not in a blaming way but rather in a way to

solve problems that their child is having at school (make them aware of the disciplinary procedures and the school's policy against bullying)

- When approaching parents of the child who is being bullied make them aware of our policy against bullying and assure them that the school will do all that is possible to address the problem
- Discuss with each set of parents what actions will be taken at school to solve the problem and prevent its reoccurrence.
- Ask the parents/guardians what action they will be taking at home to contribute to the solution
- Set out a timeframe with the parents and the agreed measures (these plans should initially be for two weeks and then reviewed with both set of parents)
- In serious incidences the child who is bullying may need to be excluded from the school for a period of time (parents will need to be informed if the measures taken do not solve the problem then permanent exclusion is possible)

SANCTIONS USED FOR BULLYING

Some of the possible sanctions that may be carried out depending on the incident are as follows:

- Apologise to the victim(s) verbally or in writing
- Lose privileges
- Lose playtimes (stay with class teacher, write lines or do extra work)
- Stand outside the Head Teacher's office
- Head Teacher's homework
- Spend playtimes and lunchtimes with an adult
- Parents will be invited in to school
- Go on a self-improvement report
- Be removed from class and work in isolation
- Lose team points
- Report to the Head Teacher or Assistant Head Teacher
- Be withdrawn from participation in school visit, clubs and events not essential to the curriculum
- Fixed term exclusion
- Permanent exclusion

BULLYING OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

Green Crescent Primary School is an inclusive school. We provide a secure, accepting, safe and stimulating environment where everyone is valued for who they are.

At Green Crescent Primary, we have some children who have learning difficulties and/or communication difficulties and also high attainers'/ gifted and talented pupils. Everyone involved in the school is very aware that these children can be especially vulnerable to bullying and we are therefore particularly vigilant at all times. Staff will treat this type of bullying as seriously and in the same way as any other type of bullying.

CURRICULUM APPROACH

Whole school initiatives and proactive teaching strategies will be used throughout the school to develop a positive learning environment with the aim of reducing the opportunities for bullying to occur. The following strategies can include:

- Whole school assembly on bullying
- Create awareness about what bullying is
- Create awareness of what constitutes bullying
- Encourage reporting of bullying
- Encourage against bullying by discussing the Islamic Personality and emphasise within the Islamic Studies curriculum (Anti-bullying week in Islamic Studies – Respecting Differences)
- Incorporating awareness of bullying into the PSHE
- Show and tell assemblies help children to get to know each other in other ways and promote friendship development
- Active participation in Anti-Bullying Awareness Week and also involving parents
- Involving the whole school community in writing and reviewing the policy
- Undertaking regular questionnaires and surveys to monitor the extent of bullying in the school and the effectiveness of the anti-bullying policy
- Each class agreeing on their own set of class rules
- Making national anti-bullying week a high profile event each year, involving parents
- To make cross curricular links with PHSE (Personal, Health & Social Education) in Islamic Studies

- Circle time on bullying issues
- Children writing stories and poems and drawing pictures about bullying
- Children being read stories about bullying
- Using drama activities and role-plays to help children be more assertive and teach them strategies to help them deal with bullying situations
- Prominently displaying anti-bullying posters produced by the children around the school
- Introduction of a confidential ‘Concerns’ box where children and parents/guardians can write and post their concerns and ideas
- Introducing playground improvements and initiatives
- Using praise and rewards to reinforce good behaviour
- Encouraging the whole school community to model appropriate behaviour towards one another
- Organising regular anti-bullying training for all staff

MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF THE POLICY

To ensure this policy is effective, it will be regularly monitored and evaluated. Children’s and parents’/guardians’ comments posted in the ‘concerns box’ and the incident book will be used to gauge the effectiveness of the policy.

13.0 SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION, SUPPORT AND HELP

There is a vast amount of information and guidance available about bullying that can provide a wide range of support and help. The following list is just a small selection of the support available that teachers, parents and children have found useful.

| Name of Organisation | Telephone Number | Website |
|-------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Act Against Bullying | 0845 230 2560 | www.actagainstbullying.com |
| Advisory Centre for Education (ACE) | 0207 704 3370 | www.ace-ed.org.uk |
| Anti-Bully | not available | www.antibully.org.uk |
| Anti-Bullying Alliance | 0207 843 1901 | www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk |
| Anti-Bullying Network | 0131 651 6103 | www.antibullying.net |
| Beat Bullying | 0845 338 5060 | www.beatbullying.org.uk |
| Bully Free Zone | 01204 454 958 | www.bullyfreezone.co.uk |
| Bullying Online | 020 7378 1446 | www.bullying.co.uk |
| Childline | 0800 1111 (helpline for children) | www.childline.org.uk |
| Kidscape | 020 7730 3300 (general enquiry number) 08451 205 204 (helpline for adults only) | www.kidscape.org.uk |
| NSPCC | 0207 825 2500 | www.nspcc.org.uk |
| Parent line Plus | 0808 800 2222 | www.parentlineplus.org.uk |

PLEASE SEE FOLLOWING DFE DOCUMENTS:

DFE PREVENT AND TACKLING BULLYING JULY 2017

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/623895/Preventing_and_tackling_bullying_advice.pdf JULY 2017

CYBERBULLYING ADVICE FOR HEADTEACHERS AND SCHOOL STAFF

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/374850/Cyberbullying_Advice_for_Headteachers_and_School_Staff_121114.pdf

Alleged Bullying Incident Form

(i.e. significant / repeated / or serious one-off incident)

| | Name (s) | Gender | Class/Room |
|---|----------|--------|------------|
| Complainant(s) | | | |
| Alleged child (children who has been bullied (if different from above) | | | |
| Alleged child (children) who has displayed bullying behaviour | | | |
| <i>Date of incident:</i> | | | |
| <i>Location of incident:</i> | | | |
| <p><i>Type of incident: Please tick/circle appropriate types</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Physical Bullying (includes jostling, physical intimidation, interfering with personal property (stealing, damaging, intruding upon it) punching/kicking, any other physical contact which may include hair pulling, spitting or use of 'weapon', extortion, writing/drawing offensive notes.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Verbal Bullying (includes name calling, insults, jokes, threats, spreading malicious rumours, ridicule of another's appearance/disability/personal mannerisms/way of speaking, humiliating another publicly, mocking, sarcasm, intimidation)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Emotional Bullying (includes isolation, refusal to work with/talk to/play with/help others, mobbing the individual, belittling another's abilities, or achievements, menacing looks, stares or rude gestures)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Cyber Bullying (please specify) _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> | | | |
| <u>Details of Incident</u> | | | |

Action/support for child(ren) who has/have been bullied i.e. on-going support / monitoring from staff (including time frame of follow up action required)

Parental involvement (please specify e.g. dates and details of information received)

NAME OF STAFF MEMBER(S) INVOLVED

Date: _____