



CYBER BULLYING POLICY

April 2019

Aims/Objectives:

1. Pupils, staff and parents know about cyber bullying and its consequences
2. We have the knowledge, policies and procedures to prevent and, if necessary, to deal with cyber bullying in school or within the school community
3. We monitor the effectiveness of our procedures

What is cyber bullying?

Cyber bullying includes sending or posting harmful or upsetting text, images or other messages

- Using the internet, mobile phones or other communication technology. It can take many forms, but can go even further than face to face bullying by invading home and personal space and can target one or more people. It can take place across age groups and target pupils, staff and others
- It can include threats and intimidation, harassment, defamation, exclusion or peer
- Rejection, impersonation and unauthorized publication of private information or images. It can include messages intended as jokes, but which have a harmful or upsetting effect.

Cyber bullying may be carried out in many ways, including:

- Threatening, intimidating or upsetting text messages
- Threatening or embarrassing pictures and video clips via mobile phone cameras
- Silent or abusive phone calls or using the victim's phone to harass others, to make them think the victim is responsible; Threatening or bullying emails, possibly sent using a pseudonym or someone else's name
- Menacing or upsetting responses to someone in a chat-room
- Unpleasant messages sent during instant messaging; unpleasant or defamatory information posted to blogs, personal websites and social networking sites (Eg. Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, YouTube, Google Plus, WhatsApp, Etc.). In some cases this type of bullying can be a criminal offence.

Prevention of Cyber Bullying Understanding and information:

- The Head will act, as an e-Safety Officer, to oversee the practices and procedures outlined in this policy and monitor their effectiveness
- The e-Safety Officer will ensure that the school maintains details of agencies and resources that may assist in preventing and addressing bullying
- Staff will be trained to identify signs of cyber bullying and will be helped to keep informed about the technologies that children commonly use



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- Pupils will be informed about cyber bullying through curricular and pastoral activities. Pupils and staff are expected to comply with the school's Acceptable Computer Use Policy
- Parents will be provided with information and advice on cyber bullying, Practices and Procedures. The responsibilities of the school and of the pupils as set out in the Anti-Bullying Policy apply also to this policy
- Positive use of ICT will be promoted and the Acceptable Computer Use Policy will be kept under review as technologies develop
- CPD and INSET may be used to help staff develop their own practices and support pupils in safe and responsible use of ICT
- The school will encourage safe use of ICT, emphasizing, for example, the importance of password security and the need to log out of accounts
- The school will promote the message that asking for help is the right thing to do and all members of the school community will be informed how cyber bullying can be reported

Date for review

August 2020