



Yatton Infant and Junior School Anti-bullying Policy



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Rationale

Everyone should have the freedom to live and work in a happy and safe atmosphere. We want to build a positive school culture and actively work towards preventing bullying behaviour in our school. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable in our school

Our Vision drives all of our school policies. Our policies enable our children to:

'Grow, Celebrate and Make a Difference'

This policy is links to:

Safeguarding child protection policy, behaviour policy, e-safety policy, Equality and Diversity policy, mental health policy and the PSHE policy.

What is bullying behaviour?

Bullying is defined as

‘Bullying is repeated negative behaviour that is intended to make others feel upset, uncomfortable or unsafe.’

(definition from the Diana Award)

Banter v’s bullying

The dictionary describes banter as: ‘the playful and friendly exchange of teasing remarks’.

Bullying is often justified as being just banter. It may start as banter, but some types of banter is bullying and need to be addressed as bullying.

Types of Banter

- Friendly Banter- There’s no intention to hurt and everyone knows its limits
- Ignorant Banter- crosses the line with no intention to hurt, will often say sorry
- Malicious Banter- Done to humiliate a person-often in public

Types of bullying behaviour

The main types of bullying are

Verbal, indirect and physical.

We use the acronym VIP to remember these.

• **Verbal bullying:**

The repeated, negative use of speech or verbal gestures, to intentionally hurt others for example; hurtful words, offensive language, swearing and discriminatory language.

• **Indirect bullying:**

The repeated, negative use of actions which are neither verbal nor physical to intentionally hurt others. Examples include isolating someone, rumours, sharing secrets, damaging/taking someone’s property and intimidation.

• **Physical bullying:**

The repeated, negative use of body contact to intentionally hurt others. Examples include kicking, punching, pinching, slapping and tripping

Signs and symptoms of being bullied:

A person may indicate by signs or behaviours that they are being bullied. Everyone should be aware of these possible signs and should investigate if the person;

- is frightened to say what is wrong.
- doesn’t want to go to school
- stops doing things they enjoy
- is unwilling to go to school (school phobic) / truants
- changes in personality (quieter or acting out for attention)
- starts stammering
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- being upset before or after school
- performance in school learning begins to drop
- comes home with clothes torn, property damaged or ‘missing’

- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- begins using bullying behaviour themselves
- changes in eating habits
- afraid to use the internet or mobile phone
- nervous or jumpy when a cyber message is received
- threatens or attempts self harm
- threatens or attempts to run away
- Not wanting to go outside for breaks / hiding in class or toilet areas
- Saying they feel unwell

Why children might begin to use bullying behaviour

The reasons could be:

- media influences
- home / family difficulty
- social influences (to look good in front of other people/to feel popular/peer pressure)
- lack of self-esteem (to feel good about themselves)
- Don't want to be targeted themselves
- Replicating behaviour
- Culture of bullying behaviour (when bullying behaviour is seen to be the norm, young people may not question it)
- to feel powerful
- jealousy
- to be in control
- because they want something (attention, possession or friends)
- because they are being bullied themselves
- external pressures

See the ambassador section on the website – information for parents for a full explanation for each point

We work towards preventing bullying behaviour by:

The schools will foster a clear understanding that bullying, in any form, is not acceptable. This will be done by:

- Staff training through staff meetings and key adults trained through the Diana Award.
- A shared understanding of the procedures in place when faced with a bullying allegation.
- Having trained anti bullying ambassadors to support peers and drive initiatives.
- Displaying the school's anti- bullying charter in every classroom created by the anti-bullying ambassadors.
- Promoting a positive and inclusive whole school ethos.
- Regular praise of positive and supportive behaviour by all staff.
- Work in school which develops empathy and emotional intelligence as well as education around what bullying is and why it is important to discuss this (PSHE Jigsaw scheme – PSHE policy).
- Displaying Helplines and their contact numbers (e.g. Childline, Kidscape).

- Providing an Anti-Bullying Box where pupils can leave notes of incidents of bullying, if they feel they are unable to tell someone directly. This is then dealt with by the anti-bullying ambassadors
- Raising self-esteem for all pupils especially those involved in bullying.
- Having quiet zones and areas in the playground where children can talk to an ambassador.
- Involving those who are bullied in the decision making process (Step 2 and 3) when dealing with incidents.
- Supervising playtimes effectively (in line with the behaviour policy).
- Promoting and contributing towards national anti-bullying week as well as year round events lead by the ambassadors.
- Treating any incidents seriously and dealing with them immediately.
- Providing a programme of e-safety education for all pupils – e-safety policy.
- Celebrating diversity and equality – ‘All Different, All Equal’. Through PSHE Jigsaw (equality and diversity policy)

The importance of responding to bullying incidents

Everybody has the right to be treated with respect.

Everybody has the right to feel happy and safe.

No-one deserves to be a victim of bullying.

Children displaying bullying behaviour need to learn different ways of behaving.

Where bullying outside of school is reported to school staff, it will be investigated and acted on using the following steps.

How we will respond to bullying

Step 1: The child being bullied informs a member of staff/parent, or bullying is noticed on the playground/in class or the child entered a note into the anti- bullying box

Teacher/ambassador/member of SLT discusses with the situation with the child and suggests how we can support them and ask them what they want to happen.

Step 2: Speak to the child doing the bullying behaviour.

Give the child support to make a change and respond in a positive way to the allegation – stop the bullying behaviours and explain that this will be monitored and reviewed. Support offered.

Step 3: If continues – child to work with school mentor on building relationships and then the school will follow the Pathways of Help shown below – headteacher to interview all concerned and parents informed. Records of all incidents will be kept by adults and ambassadors at each point and communicated to the SLT if bullying continues. (Step 3,4 and 5.) These will be held in the Bullying Log or File – in all stages safeguarding is considered and safeguarding policy followed.

Monitoring and Evaluation

All behaviour issues including bullying are discussed weekly in the leadership meeting.

All behaviour incidents are reported to the Full Governing Body through the Head teacher report on a regular basis.

Annually this data will be reviewed by the leadership to establish the effectiveness of the policy and make changes as appropriate.

Ambassadors will collect evidence and survey (pupil voice) effectiveness twice yearly

This policy is based on:

- *Schedule 1 of the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014; paragraph 7 outlines a school's duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, paragraph 9 requires the school to have a written behaviour policy and paragraph 10 requires the school to have an anti-bullying strategy*
- *DfE guidance explaining that academies should publish their behaviour policy and anti-bullying strategy online*

Support Agencies for parent advice – how to spot signs of bullying and how to tackle this:

Anti-bullying Alliance - **the alliance brings together over 60 organisations into one network with the aim of reducing bullying. Their website has a parent section with links to recommended organisations who can help with bullying issues**

www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Kidscape

www.kidscape.org.uk

02077303300

Childline – advice and stories from children who have survived bullying
08000 1111

Bullying on line

www.bullying.co.uk

Parentline Plus – advice and links for parents www.parentlineplus.org.uk
08088002222

Parents Against Bullying

01928 576152

Useful sources of information

Diana Award – Charity based resource centre and support for bullying issues in school.
<https://diana-award.org.uk/anti-bullying/>

Stonewall - the gay equality organisation founded in 1989. Founding members include Sir Ian McKellen. www.stonewall.org.uk.

Cyberbullying.org - one of the first websites set up in this area, for young people, providing advice around preventing and taking action against cyberbullying. A Canadian based site
www.cyberbullying.org

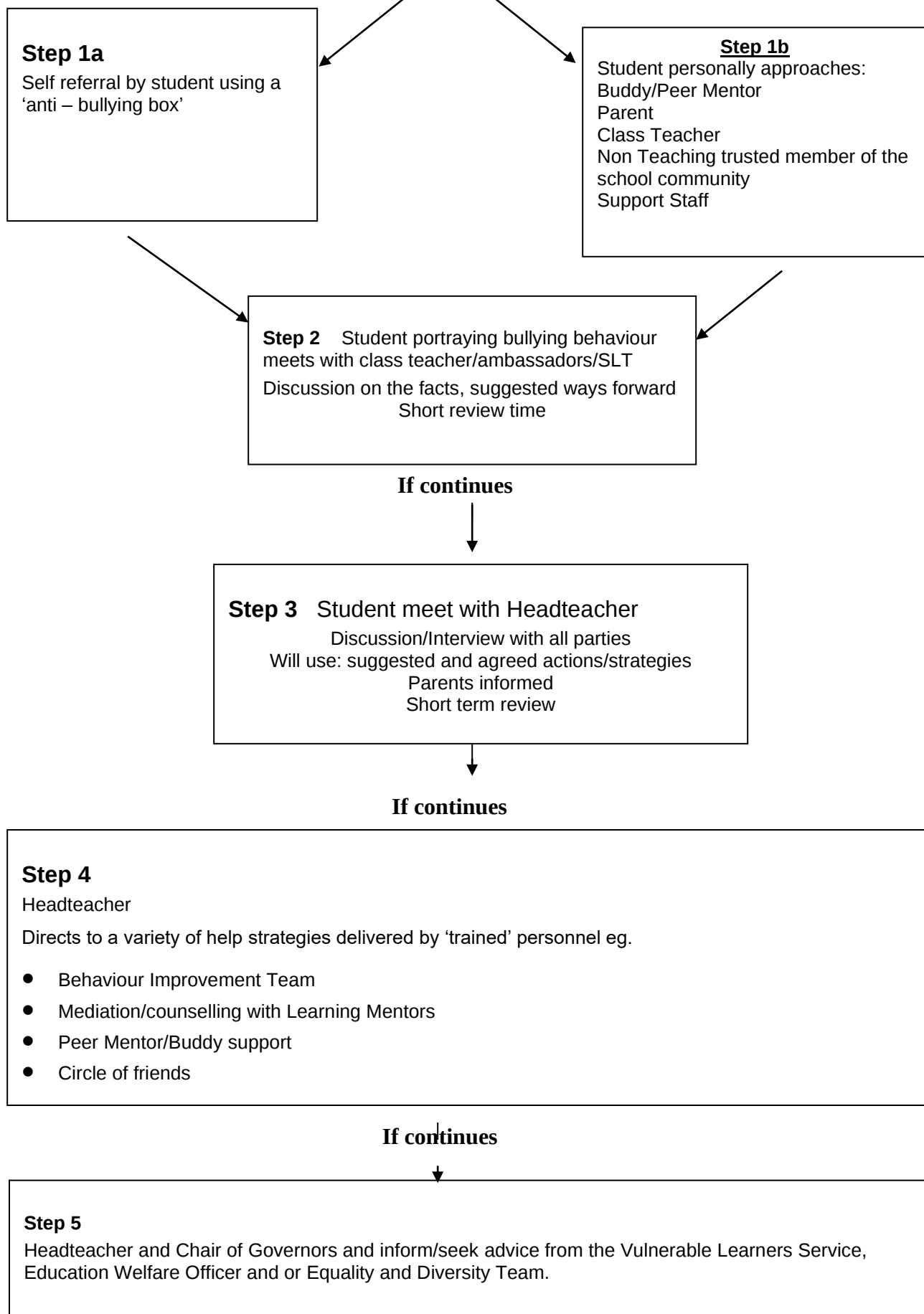
Chatdanger - a website that informs about the potential dangers online (including bullying), and advice on how to stay safe while chatting www.chatdanger.com

Think U Know - the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP), has produced a set of resources around internet safety www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Know IT All for Parents – a range of resources for primary and secondary schools by Childnet International. Has a sample family agreement www.childnet-int.org/kia/parents

PATHWAYS OF HELP

Child is bullied





Yatton Infant and Junior School Anti-Bullying Charter

What is bullying?

The agreed Yatton Schools definition of Bullying:

Repeated repeated negative behaviour that is intended to makes others feel upset, uncomfortable or unsafe.

How can we prevent bullying?

- ✓ To treat each other with respect and kindness at playtimes and in the classroom
- ✓ To play fairly
- ✓ To think about the school rules always: Safe, Ready, Respect.

What to do if you are being bullied:

- ✓ Never tackle a situation alone
- ✓ Always tell a trusted adult
- ✓ Be an upstander and try telling the person to STOP!
- ✓ Talk to an Anti-Bullying Ambassador at playtimes
- ✓ Post a note in the anti-bullying box
- ✓ Never be mean back

What to do if you see someone else get bullied:

- ✓ Tell a trusted adult
- ✓ Talk to an Anti-Bullying Ambassador
- ✓ Be an upstander and tell the bully to STOP!
- ✓ Don't join in, tell the bully to stop and tell an adult
- ✓ Post a note in the anti-bullying box
- ✓ Check if the person is OK
- ✓ Support them to walk away

What the adults will do if they see bullying or a bullying incident has been reported to them:

- ✓ Adults will always promote positive behaviours
- ✓ Adults will always listen to children if they feel they are being bullied or have seen bullying happen
- ✓ Adults will always report bullying to the leadership team
- ✓ Adults will follow the school's policy and report bullying behaviours to parents after giving the person bullying a chance to stop.
- ✓ Adults will support the person bullying to stop and to see what they are doing wrong
- ✓ Children who are bullying will be monitored to make sure it doesn't happen again
- ✓ For serious incidents or repeated bullying after a warning the child may be taken off the playground for an agreed period of time.

This has been created by the Anti Bullying Ambassadors 2021/22