

# St. Margaret Mary's Catholic Junior School

Pilch Lane

Liverpool

L14 0JG



## Anti-Bullying Policy 2021/22

<b>Committee to approve/ratify policy</b>	Curriculum & Policies
<b>Policy Co-ordinator</b>	R Culley
<b>Date of approval/ratification by Committee</b>	February 2022
<b>Date for renewal</b>	February 2023
<b>Signature of the Chair of the Committee</b>	S Boardman

### **Mission Statement:**

Loving, learning, growing together with Jesus

## Overview:

**'Respecting human dignity is important...because even behind the simple account of an event there are sentiments, emotions, and ultimately, people's lives'. (Pope Francis)**

We encourage all members of our school community to live out our Mission Statement every day in all that we do. Therefore bullying and other forms of unacceptable intimidation, including bullying due to sexual orientation, cyber bullying by internet or mobile phone will not be tolerated. We promote kindness and respect and expect our community to care for each other. We strive for every member of our community to come to school without fear and to be happy and feel safe in school. Everyone will be vigilant and they will act promptly to intervene if there are any signs of bullying.

There are many definitions of bullying, but the Anti-Bullying Alliance bases its definition on the accounts of the victims of bullying. They consider it to be:

- intentional (including aggression)
- repetitive or persistent
- based on an imbalance of power, leaving the victim feeling defenceless
- can be face to face or happen online

Bullying can take many forms, but the main types are:

- **Physical:** pushing, hitting, kicking, pinching, threats, stealing
- **Verbal:** name calling, insulting, sarcasm, persistent teasing, offensive remarks, spreading rumours
- **Emotional:** tormenting, ridicule, humiliation, exclusion from social groups,
- **Racist:** racial taunts, jokes, offensive mimicry, graffiti, gestures
- **Sexual:** inappropriate and uninvited touching, abusive comments, innuendoes
- **Cyber Bullying:** insulting, threatening offensive messages through texting, social media etc.
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The Headteacher has a legal duty under The Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998 and Education Act 2010 to draw up procedures to prevent bullying among the pupils and to bring these procedures to the attention of staff, parents, carers and pupils. Our work on anti-bullying forms part of our commitment to safeguard and promote the welfare of children as set out in 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (Sep 2020)

## Aims:

1. To ensure that all members of our school community feel safe and free from bullying and intimidation.
2. To identify and protect vulnerable pupils and groups (including those with special educational needs or disabilities; those going through a personal or family crisis; those suffering from a health problem; ethnic minority groups; children in care and those with caring responsibilities).
3. To ensure that all children understand what bullying, including cyber bullying is.
4. To build an ethos where learners feel safe and free from threat and intimidation.
5. To promote good relationships where all are treated well and where learners care for each other.
6. To act promptly and effectively at the first sign of bullying including cyber bullying.
7. To encourage learners and parents to report any attempted bullying.
8. To protect and reassure any victims of bullying.
9. To have effective sanctions to deter bullying and to have successful strategies to reform bullies.
10. To make this a happy school that is free from bullying of any kind including cyber bullying.
11. To ensure that our school community understands the importance of celebrating our individual differences and that together such differences make us unique and special.

## **Strategies:**

To meet our aims we will ensure that the following strategies are employed:

1. The behaviour policy will be used effectively to promote good behaviour so that there is an ethos where bullying is unacceptable.
2. All staff will be vigilant and intervene immediately and effectively if any bullying is observed or reported.
3. All learners will be encouraged to report bullying and when they do so they will be listened to and taken seriously.
4. All allegations of bullying will be investigated, followed up and recorded.
5. Any cyber bullying of staff or pupils, in or out of school, must be reported and then investigated rigorously, in conjunction with any relevant authority (including the police if appropriate).
6. Any victim of bullying will be protected immediately and in the future.
7. Any allegations of bullying will be reported to the Headteacher.
8. Anti-Bullying Week, Anti-Bullying Conferences, Assembly time and any other relevant opportunities will be used to discuss bullying and to ensure that all are aware that bullying is never acceptable and that the victim must always report it to parents, staff or friends.
9. We will use the school's behaviour policy and rewards strategy to reinforce this Anti bullying policy.
10. Learners and their parents will be made aware of this policy.
11. The parents of all concerned will be informed and involved in any reported incident and they will be expected to support the school.

## **Equal Opportunities and Inclusion**

At St. Margaret Mary's Catholic Junior School, we plan to provide for all pupils regardless of gender, ethnicity, socio-economic status, cultural background, academic ability, Special Educational Need/Disability or vulnerability to achieve their full potential.

## **Outcomes and impact:**

The Governing Body at St. Margaret Mary's Roman Catholic Junior School is committed to ensure that our school has a warm, friendly, welcoming and safe environment. It will be a place where bullying is not tolerated and where all will treat others as they themselves would expect to be treated. Particular care will be taken of vulnerable groups including those with special educational needs or disabilities; those going through a personal or family crisis; those suffering from a health problem; ethnic minority groups; children in care and those with caring responsibilities.

## **Policy Links:**

Behaviour  
Safeguarding and Child Protection  
Allegations about a member of staff  
Acceptable Use of ICT and E Safety  
Equality & Diversity  
Mobile Phone