



Leigh Academy
Tree Tops

Anti-bullying Policy

2023 - 2025

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19.07.23	1.1	Reviewed & reformatted

1. POLICY STATEMENT

1. Bullying of any form is not tolerated by the Academy, and all staff and pupils are expected to be committed to this policy. All staff and pupils should respect each individual and aim to make everyone feel comfortable, both on their way to and from the Academy and within it. There must not be any fear of, or intimidation from, other people, either physical or psychological.

2. Bullying can occur through several types of anti-social behaviour. It can

be: i. physical – a person can be physically punched, kicked, spat at, etc;

ii. verbal – verbal abuse can take the form of name calling, it may be directed towards gender, ethnic origin, physical/social disability, or personality;

iii. exclusive – a person can be bullied simply by being excluded from discussion/activities with those they believe to be their friends;

iv. damage to property or theft – a person may have property damaged or stolen, physical threats may be used by the bully to coerce the person to hand over the property to them;

v. online – this applies to inside and outside of the Academy through the use of smart devices, social media, instant messaging, email, text messaging and methods of communicating virtually.

vi) Prejudice-based and discriminatory bullying

2. PRINCIPLES

1. It is important that victims are not made to feel powerless so to this end, victims of bullying will, in the first instance, have a dialogue with an adult to discuss ways in which the situation can best be dealt with and this will include discussion on appropriate sanctions. S/he will also be offered safe areas for breaks and lunchtimes.

2. The Academy will:

i. ensure all pupils are aware of the nature of the bullying;

ii. ensure all pupils are aware of the measures that will be taken against bullying; iii. inform parents of the Academy's attitude towards bullying via the 'academy website and is a listed policy in the Academy's information booklets;

iv. ensure that all staff are aware of the anti-bullying policy and procedures for its implementation, a copy of which will be included in the Policy Folder;

v. if appropriate display anti bullying posters throughout the Academy.

3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. It is the responsibility of the **Governing Body** to establish a policy and procedure for Anti-bullying and to monitor the effects of the procedure.

2. It is the responsibility of the Principals to promote positive relationships in the Academy by encouraging and fostering acceptable standards of behaviour, good personal relationships and a respect for the individual. Any breaches of good conduct and behaviour will be addressed promptly, using informal procedures where possible but implementing formal procedures where necessary.

3. It is the responsibility of all staff to familiarise themselves, and comply, with this policy and procedure with professional standards. In particular they should encourage and foster acceptable standards of behaviour, good personal relationships and a respect for the individual.

4. It is the responsibility of pupils to develop positive relationships in the Academy and demonstrate acceptable standards of behaviour, good personal relationships and a respect for the individual.

5. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to support the Academy in encouraging and fostering in their children, acceptable standards of behaviour, good personal relationships and a respect for the individual.

4. PROCEDURES

1. As a pupil

1. If you suspect someone is being bullied:

- i. Tell a member of staff immediately who will take the appropriate action
- ii. Do not be, or pretend to be friends with a bully.

2. If you are being bullied:

- i. Tell an adult either at home or at school
- ii. Tell yourself that you do not deserve to be bullied, and that it is wrong.
- iii. Be proud of who you are.
- iv. Try not to show you are upset, it is difficult, but a bully thrives on someone's fear.
- v. Stay with a group of friends, there is safety in numbers.
- vi. Walk confidently away, go straight to a member of staff.
- vii. You may feel angry, but rise above it. Don't get involved in a fight.

2. As a parent/carer:

- i. Look for unusual behaviour. For example, your child may suddenly not wish to attend school, may feel ill regularly, or may not complete work to his/her normal standard.
- ii. Inform Academy staff immediately if you suspect bullying.
- iii. Advise your child not to fight back.
- iv. Talk to your child, listen to them and reassure your child that there is nothing wrong with her/him.
- v. Make sure you and your child are aware of the Academy's Anti-bullying Policy.
- vi. Do not get involved personally with other parents.

3. As a member of staff:

- i. Record all incidents of bullying on pupils' observation documents and share with SLT and FLO (family liaison officer) who will follow up as appropriate.
- ii. Conference with all children involved in any reported incidents and ensure all children are listened to fairly. Ensure this is done on the day the incident is reported so that it is dealt with quickly and while all facts are fresh on pupils' and staff minds.
- iii) Notify parents of all involved so they are reassured that the school takes appropriate action when dealing with any incidents of this nature
- iii. Encourage pupils and staff to form positive attitudes towards others.
- iv. Ensure that bullies are counselled and/or sanctioned appropriately.
- v. Ensure that victims of bullying are given help, advice and support by appropriate staff or outside agencies.
- vi. Ensure that all staff, teaching and educational support staff, are given appropriate information and training where necessary, in respect of the Academy's Anti-bullying Policy.
- vii. Ensure that the Academy uses any opportunity to discuss aspects of bullying and the appropriate way to behave towards each other, e.g. in assemblies, in the PSHE programme, through class books, through inquiries, and through conferencing.
- viii) Use the Learner Profile Attributes to support children in forming positive relationships and to use while conferencing: being a communicator, being principled, being open-minded and being caring.

4. The victims will be supported in the following ways:
 - i. By being offered the immediate opportunity to talk about their experience with an appropriate member of staff.
 - ii. By the Academy informing the victim's parents/carers.
 - iii. By the Academy offering continued support when the victim feels s/he needs it.
 - iv. By the Learning Mentor/SLT, taking disciplinary steps to prevent further incidents

5. The bullies will be disciplined and counselled in the following ways:
 - i. By SLT, talking about what happened, to discover the reasons they became involved.
 - ii. By SLT informing the bullies' parents/carers.
 - iii. By all staff continuing to work with the bullies to support their needs, to educate them depending on their reasons for bullying (whether motivated by any prejudice)
 - iv. By SLT, taking disciplinary (see below) steps to prevent more bullying.

5. DISCIPLINARY STEPS

1. The Academy will take a range of disciplinary steps; these include:
 - i. An official warning to stop offending.
 - ii. Inform bullies' parents/carers.
 - iii. Missing play and lunch times
 - iv. Internally secluded.
 - v. Exclude from the Academy during break and at lunch times.
 - vi. Exclude from the Academy for a fixed period (one or two days).
 - vii. If bullying persists, exclude for a fixed period (up to five days).
 - viii. If bullying persists, and no interventions or support are successful, a managed move or permanent exclusion would be proposed to the Academy Director ([See LAT exclusion policy](#))

2. The Academy aims to comply with Section 154 of the Education Act 1996 by maintaining an ethos and environment which will encourage and foster acceptable standards of behaviour, good personal relationships and a respect for the individual.

6. MONITORING AND REVIEW

1. SLT will consult with all staff members on this policy when needed to review.

2. The Principal will report to the Governor Body on any relevant aspects of the working of the policy as appropriate.

3. The policy will be reviewed every two years.