

## **FLUSHING C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL THE SCHOOLS APPROACH TO BULLYING**

Bullying both verbal and physical will not be tolerated in this school. It is everyone's responsibility to prevent it happening and with this in mind the governors have laid down the following guide lines. The school will react firmly where bullying is identified. There are a range of sanctions available to staff depending on the perceived seriousness of the situation. Some of these include:

- a) Use of yellow and red cards and the behaviour system.
- b) Detentions.
- c) Meeting with parents.
- d) Exclusion from school during lunch time.
- e) Fixed term Exclusion from school.
- f) Exclusion from school.

The school will:

1. Support children who are being bullied.
2. Help bullies to change their behaviour.
3. Take bullying seriously (including cyber and racial bullying) and find out the facts of any incident.
4. Meet those concerned individually.
5. Use peer group pressure to actively discourage bullying.
6. Break up bully groups where it seems necessary.
7. Involve parents.
8. Help children develop positive strategies and assertion through specific lessons.
9. Use Worship/Assemblies to foster an ethos of care and kindness.
10. Be equally concerned about bullying to and from school.
11. Record incidents of bullying in a consistent way that allows for monitoring of behaviour.
12. Discuss with and involve children in agreed class and school rules and behaviour.
13. Request help from SEN Support Services and Ed. Psychologist where necessary.
14. Involve the police where necessary.

### **BE FIRM BUT FAIR**

When a child is being accused of being a bully or any serious misbehaviour, it is important to establish the facts first. We need to be firm but fair.

### **ADVICE TO PARENTS**

It is always a good idea to take an interest in your child's social life and chat about friends and their activities in and out of school. As well as keeping up to date with your child's friendships you may well learn of disagreements or difficulties. Watch for signs of distress in your children. There could be an unwillingness to attend schools, headaches, stomach aches etc, toys or equipment going missing, requests for extra pocket money etc. There are many reasons why your child may be unsettled at school - bullying is always a possibility.

If you think a child is being bullied, inform the school immediately (by email, phone, letter or using the Toot Toot system) and ask for an interview with a member of staff or the head teacher who should deal with the incident.

## ADVICE TO CHILDREN

If you are being bullied:

1. Try not to show that you are upset - this is difficult.
2. Walk quickly and confidently - even if you don't feel that way inside.
3. Try to be assertive.
4. Get your friends together and say no to the bully.
5. If you are different in any way, be proud of it - it's good to be an individual.
6. Avoid being alone in places where bullying happens.
7. If you are in danger, get away.
8. Tell an adult that you can trust.
9. Use the Toot Toot system to report any concerns (including cyber bullying).

You can help stop bullying:

1. Don't stand by and watch - fetch help.
2. Show that you and your friends disapprove.
3. Give sympathy and support to children who may be bullied.
4. Be careful about teasing or personal remarks - imagine how you might feel.
5. If you know of serious bullying, tell a trusted adult. It's not telling tales, the victim may be too lonely or scared to tell.