



CLIFTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Anti-bullying Policy

**Revised May 2017
Review Date May 2018**

Key Overview

There is no legal definition of bullying. However, we believe bullying to be defined as any behaviour by an individual or group that is designed to 'hurt' an individual through emotional or physical abuse. It is usually:

- Repeated – including a pattern and not a 'one off' incident.
- Intended to hurt – the individual or group know that their actions are going to cause upset.

There are occasions when bullying can be:

- Aimed at certain groups, eg. because of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation.

We are focused on the prevention of this by raising awareness through our Social Studies curriculum, assemblies and through thematic form periods. Proactive prevention of bullying is of paramount importance to us.

Bullying can take many forms and can include:

- Physical bullying – assault.
- Verbal bullying – name calling, taunting and threats.
- Social bullying – spreading stories, rumours and excluding from social groups.
- Cyber bullying – often through social media.

We take all forms of bullying very seriously and there are occasions when we will report bullying to the police. These occasions may involve:

- Violence or assault
- Theft
- Repeated harassment or intimidation
- Hate crimes

Reporting Bullying

Students and all victims of bullying in school should contact their Student Pastoral Manager for help and support. Should you want or prefer to talk to any other adult, you should do so.

At Clifton Community School, we have a play or pass system. This means that, if the adult spoken to can't deal with the bullying issue immediately, that adult will "pass" the issue to an adult who can; that second adult will "play" and stop what they may be doing to give the bullying issue their undivided attention.

Bullying will be an issue in every school and Clifton Community School is no exception. The key is to take all accusations of bullying seriously and to deal with them straight away and to a conclusion.

All students who may find it difficult to approach a member of staff have the opportunity to report bullying through our online system. Students can report any issue through filling in a form and this will enable the Student Progress Team to look into it there and then.

Responding to Bullying

- When bullying is reported a clear account is recorded by the Student Pastoral Manager and looked into with urgency.
- The Student Pastoral Manager will interview everyone involved and add to the ongoing record.
- The school will relay all concerns regarding bullying to the parents and all other relevant adults.
- Punitive measures will be used as appropriate in line with the school behaviour policy.

Support for students who have been bullied

- Where possible restorative work will take place between the parties involved to ensure no further incidents take place.
- School counselling is available for all students who have experienced bullying.
- Referrals to outside agencies and signposting appropriate intervention such as Childline, kKdscape and Bullying UK.