



Pendle Community High School & College Anti-Bullying Policy

This policy outlines how Pendle Community High School and College addresses issues of bullying. It has been drawn up through the involvement of the whole school community. We are committed to maintaining a happy, safe, positive and calm learning environment and culture of positive pupil behaviour.

This policy reinforces our core expectations and underpins our values at the **HEART** of our school and college community.

Honesty - to be able to trust each other and for everyone to always tell the truth

Embrace - diversity: everyone is included, don't leave anyone out

Ambition - which includes achievement; to have high expectations of our young people and to always try our best

Respect - Being respectful, kind, listening to each other etc.

Togetherness- teamwork, supporting, helping and looking after each other

At all times: we care for and respect: ourselves, other people and our environment and always try our best.

In addition pupils have:

- A strong sense of community – i.e. mutually beneficial relationships and positive attitudes, values and beliefs, which facilitate strong self- discipline and responsible citizens, who in turn value and can co-operate with others.
- An emotionally literate and solution-focussed organisation which fosters positive and desired behaviours, including how to effectively manage conflict and repair harm.
- A restorative culture i.e. working 'with' students to effect change rather than doing 'to' them.
- A personalised approach to negative behaviour i.e. support will always be designed around individual needs and the likely functions of behaviours, which is subsequently well-planned, implemented, monitored and analysed at various levels and in different ways across school and college.
- This policy should be read in conjunction with the Positive Relationships and Behaviour, Whole School Safeguarding and Child Protection policy, Online Safety policy, Promoting Positive Wellbeing and Mental Health Policy and Exclusion Policy.

Definition

Bullying is 'Behaviour by an individual or a group, usually repeated over time that intentionally hurts another individual either physically or emotionally'. ('Preventing and Tackling Bullying', DFE March 2014). Bullying can include: name calling, taunting, mocking, making offensive comments; kicking; hitting; taking belongings; producing offensive graffiti; gossiping; excluding people from groups and spreading hurtful and untruthful rumours. This includes the same inappropriate and harmful behaviours expressed via digital devices (online bullying) such as the sending of inappropriate messages by phone, text, Instant Messenger, through websites and social media sites and apps, and sending offensive or degrading images by mobile phone or via the internet.

Aims and objectives

Bullying is wrong and damages individual children. We prevent it, by maintaining a school ethos which reinforces our core expectations and underpins our values at the **HEART** of our school and college community and where bullying is regarded as unacceptable. We aim, as a school, to maintain a positive, safe and secure environment where all can learn without anxiety. This policy identifies a consistent school / college response to any bullying incidents that may occur.

Forms of Bullying

Bullying can happen to anyone. This policy covers all types of bullying including: bullying related to race, religion or culture, to SEND (Special Educational Needs or Disability). Bullying related to appearance or physical/mental health conditions, sexual orientation (homophobic bullying). Bullying of young carers, children in care or otherwise related to home circumstances, sexist, sexual and transphobic bullying. Bullying via technology – Online bullying.

At PCHS&C, all forms of bullying are treated the same. They are unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

Signs and symptoms of bullying

Things that could be considered:

- pupil is unwilling to come into school
- pupil begins to truant
- pupil becomes withdrawn, anxious, or lacking in confidence
- pupil complains of illness particularly in the morning
- pupil stops eating
- pupil is bullying other children or siblings
- pupil is frightened to say what's wrong
- pupil gives improbable excuses for any of the above
- pupil is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone
- pupil is nervous and jumpy when an online message is received

The role of governors

The governing body supports the school's commitment to maintaining our positive culture and our values which reinforce our core expectations.

The role of the Headteacher

It is the responsibility of the headteacher to implement the school anti-bullying strategy and to ensure that all staff (both teaching and non-teaching) are aware of the school policy and know how to deal with incidents of bullying. The headteacher reports to the governing body about the effectiveness of the anti-bullying policy.

The role of staff

Staff at PCHS & C regard all forms of bullying as serious and intervene to prevent incidents from taking place. They report any issues to a member of SLT. Incidents are recorded on the Onwards and Upwards management information system along with details of the actions taken to address the issues. All staff follow statutory Guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education September 2023 and Guidance for Safer Working Practice February 2022. All staff are aware that **bullying can be a form of child on child abuse**.

Involvement of Pupils

We regularly canvas children and young people's views on the extent and nature of bullying. We ensure that all pupils know how to express worries and anxieties about bullying including the use of the Whisper report button on the website and through regular 'check in' and 'check out' circles in form time, as part of our restorative practice and principles. All pupils were involved in redefining our core values.

We involve pupils in assemblies, anti-bullying campaigns such as during national Anti – Bullying week and Safer Internet day. Anti – bullying issues are addressed within the PSHE curriculum and during personal development sessions.

The role of Parents and Carers

Parents and carers who are concerned that their child might be being bullied, or who suspect that their child may be the perpetrator of bullying, should contact the school. Parents and carers share responsibility with us, to support the school's commitment to maintaining our positive culture which reinforce our core expectations and underpin our values.

Worried about a child/young person?

If you are worried about a child or a young person being at risk of harm, please speak to Claire Endersby, Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or, in her absence Debra Grogan, Joanne Chatburn or Alison McConville (DDSLs). **DO NOT IGNORE IT.**

Links to legislation

There are a number of pieces of legislation which set out measures and actions for schools in response to bullying as well as criminal law. These may include:

The Equality Act 2010
The Children Act 1989
KCSIE 2023

Supporting Organisations and Guidance

Anti-Bullying Alliance: www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Beat Bullying: www.beatbullying.org

Childline: www.childline.org.uk

DfE: 'Preventing and Tackling Bullying. Advice for Headteachers, staff and governing bodies', and 'Supporting children and young people who are bullied: advice for schools' March 2014:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-and-tackling-bullying>

DfE: 'No health without mental health': <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/no-health-withoutmental-health-a-cross-government-outcomes-strategy>

Education for a Connected world – UK Council for Child Internet safety February 2018

Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools Department for Education. non-statutory guidance November 2018

Teaching Online Safety in School June 2019 Department for Education. non-statutory guidance

NSPCC: www.nspcc.org.uk

NDCS: www.ndcs.org.uk

On Line bullying


Childnet International: www.childnet.com

Think U Know: www.thinkuknow.co.uk

UK Safer Internet Centre: www.saferinternet.org.uk

SEND

DfE: SEND code of practice: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25>

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Signed: T Ashton, Chair of Governors	
Signed: D Grogan, Head Teacher	