



Anti-bullying Policy

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years.

Reviewed and agreed by:

Headteacher:.....

Date:

Next review: Summer 2023

To be read in conjunction with the school's behaviour policy.

Rationale

At Ditcheat School we are committed to ensuring the well being of all pupils and staff.

We aim to use whole school curriculum planning to give all pupils opportunities to talk about their feelings and attitudes towards school and to each other.

We believe that concerns about bullying should be taken seriously and that appropriate strategies should be in place to deal with it, if it arises.

Aims for our school

We want to encourage and maintain an ethos in our school where bullying is unlikely to occur and where:

- all staff read, sign and implement this policy;
- any concerns raised are brought to the attention of the whole staff team;
- the curriculum is used to promote good personal and social relationships;
- lunchtimes and playtimes are adequately supervised;
- children should be aware that they need to mention any incidents of a bullying nature to a member of staff immediately.

Definition of Bullying

- Bullying is behaviour that is **repeated** over a period of time, and goes beyond actions which are acceptable;
- It can be physical e.g. repeated hitting, kicking, tripping up;
- It can be psychological e.g. deliberately excluding or undermining others, taking or hiding possessions;
- It can be verbal e.g. repeated name calling or taunting;
- It can include cyber bullying via the Internet and through the use of mobile phones and social networking sites.

Procedures for dealing with bullying (including cyber-bullying)

- The classteacher will discuss the incident(s) with the child and reassure them that all staff will be aware of the situation if appropriate.
- The classteacher will also hear the viewpoint of the other child.
- If a child speaks to an adult in school about a bullying issue, or if concerns are raised by a member of staff, this will be logged by the adult to whom it was reported in a book kept in a locked drawer in the Headteachers office.

- The situation will be monitored by the classteacher, who will talk to the child and staff, to see if the situation is being resolved.
- If there is no immediate resolution the classteacher will begin to log incidents, the action taken and outcomes. These will be looked at to try to identify a pattern. If a pattern is identified appropriate intervention will take place.
- If, despite all best efforts, the matter remains unresolved the head and classteacher will meet with the parents of relevant parties to agree an appropriate course of action and this will be recorded and counter signed by the parents.
- In extreme situations advice will be sought from outside support services.
- If a parent reports a bullying related worry, the same procedures will be followed and parents will be kept fully informed.

Appropriate intervention/preventative strategies might include:

- Social stories
- nurture time
- discussion in circle time;
- creating buddies;
- role play;
- create space between parties concerned;
- increased supervision;
- create opportunities in which concerns can be shared;
- E-safety is incorporated into assemblies and the curriculum for each class.

We take all alleged incidents of bullying seriously and will constantly work towards creating a bullying free school.