



**DIDSBURY**  
HIGH SCHOOL

**POLICY NAME: Anti-Bullying Policy**

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**DATE WRITTEN:** June 2020

**NEXT REVIEW:** July 2021

## What is bullying?

We believe that bullying is,

**“Behaviour by an individual or group, repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally. Bullying is repeated and intentional. It is usually identity related.”**

Bullying can be,

- a) Physical - hitting, kicking, fighting, stealing, damaging belongings, Intimidating behaviour
- b) Verbal - calling names, threatening, teasing, insulting
- c) Emotional - leaving out, spreading rumours, humiliating, tormenting
- d) Cyber - threats, messages and images sent via technology including mobile technology

The Malicious Communications Act 1988 states that it is an offence for a person to send an electronic communication to another person with the intent to cause distress or anxiety or to send an electronic communication which conveys a message which is indecent or grossly offensive, a threat, or information which is false and known or believed to be false by the sender.

The wider search powers included in the Education Act 2011 give school staff powers to tackle cyber-bullying by providing a specific power to search for and, if necessary, delete inappropriate images (or files) on electronic devices, including mobile phones.

Students can be bullied for a variety of reasons. Specific types of bullying include:

- **Disability**
- **Gender identity/reassignment/transphobia**
- **Pregnancy and Maternity**
- **Race**
- **Religion or Belief**
- **Sex**
- **Home circumstances**
- **SEN**
- **Sexual orientation/homophobia**

All of the above are protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.

Bullying can have a wide range of effects on everyone involved. For the person being bullied it can lead to low self esteem, depression and self exclusion (Mellor (DfEE) 1991). For the person bullying it is very likely that they have been or are being bullied themselves. Many bullies often go on to become criminals in later life (Olweus (DfEE) 1991).

### How do we plan to prevent bullying?

- a) Promotion of a climate/ethos which values individuals and aims to develop self-discipline and respect for others
- b) Anti-bullying policy promoted throughout the curriculum. This includes assemblies, beliefs and values lessons and is key to the Computing Scheme of Work
- c) ICT Acceptable Use policy
- d) Promotion of peer support programmes e.g. Matrix, Prefects, House system
- e) Monitoring and evaluation of the current policy
- f) Anti-Bullying Policy available on the school website and in school. Parents/carers are encouraged to discuss issues with their children
- g) Primary school liaison work
- h) Promoting anti-bullying - A Charter for Action
- i) Providing staff training regarding 'Anti-Bullying' including the use of homophobic language

### What do we do if bullying occurs?

- We deal with bullying in school - to the best of our ability
- Incidents of this nature that happen outside of school, would not normally be subject to the application of our Anti-Bullying Policy unless there is a direct impact within school
- We follow up reports and complaints
- We record all incidents of bullying internally

B1 Incidents of bullying.  
**Actions may include:**  
Discussion with student; meeting between all involved (restorative justice appraisal); parents informed.

### **School sanctions**

Likely to involve detentions, loss of social time.

- B2 Repeated incidents of bullying, either targeted at an individual or bullying of different students.

#### **Actions may include:**

Discussion with student; meeting between all involved (restorative justice appraisal); parental involvement; referrals to relevant support agencies.

### **School sanctions**

Likely to involve detentions, loss of social time and withdrawal from lessons. Exclusions may be considered.

- B3 Continued and prolonged incidents of bullying.

#### **Actions may include:**

Discussions with student; meetings with those involved (restorative justice appraisal); parental involvement; referrals to relevant support agencies;

### **School sanctions**

Likely to involve detentions, loss of social time, form change, lesson change and withdrawal from lessons. Fixed term exclusions are likely. A permanent exclusion could result.

## **Advice and guidance for staff in dealing with incidents of bullying**

### **Ground Rule**

If you know or suspect a student has been bullied **DON'T IGNORE IT.**

Suggested methods of dealing with the situation according to your own professional judgement.

You should either:

- Deal with the situation yourself, this must then be reported to the Head of Year
- Report the incident to the students Tutor
- Refer to the Head of Year

### **Standard Procedure for dealing with a reported incident of bullying**

- The victim is asked to write down or explain his/her concerns. Follow this up with a discussion in which he/she is reassured that this will be dealt with.

- The alleged bully should be interviewed separately and he/she should write down or explain his/her response to the incident/accusations. Attempt to get the bully to see the situation from the victim's point of view.

### **If you do not intend to take the matter further**

A formal warning should be made saying that further action or retaliation is deemed to be not only bullying but a serious challenge to authority and will be dealt with accordingly.

It is also useful to make the student aware of the next steps that have to be taken if the bullying does not stop: Stages B1, B2 and B3 should be taken into consideration.

***Heads of Year will keep an accurate record of all bullying incidents. All incidents will be recorded, as per the categories listed previously***

**The Head of school has the right to discipline students for incidents of bullying which occur off the school premises and beyond the school day if this impacts within school.**

### **STAFF INFORMATION**

The principles of our Anti-Bullying Policy apply to all members of our school community.

Please report any incidents of bullying to a member of the Senior Leadership Team or the Chair of Governors.

This policy should be read in conjunction with: Acceptable Use Policy; Behaviour Policy; Safeguarding Policy; Single Equality Scheme.

## Anti-Bullying - A Charter for Action

Name of School - Didsbury High School

Name of Local Authority - **Manchester**

We are working with staff, students and parents/carers to create a school community where bullying is not tolerated.

### Our school community

- ✓ Discusses, monitors and reviews our Anti-Bullying Policy on a regular basis. Good practice suggests the policy should be reviewed on average every three years.
- ✓ Supports staff to promote positive relationships and identify and tackle bullying appropriately.
- ✓ Ensures that students are aware that all bullying concerns will be dealt with sensitively and effectively; that students feel safe to learn; and that students abide by the anti-bullying policy.
- ✓ Reports back quickly to parents/carers regarding their concerns on bullying and deals promptly with complaints. Parents/carers in turn work with the school to uphold the anti-bullying policy.
- ✓ Seeks to learn from anti-bullying good practice elsewhere and utilises the support of the LA and relevant organisations when appropriate.

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair of Governors

\_\_\_\_\_ Head of school

\_\_\_\_\_ Representative of students

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

## Equality Impact Assessments

Names and titles of people involved with this assessment	<b>E. Warrington Trust Director of SEND</b>												
Title of Policy – <b>Anti bullying</b>													
Impact assessment carried out with regard to identified characteristics	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">Race</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Disability</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gender</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Age</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Religion &amp; belief</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sexual orientation</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	Race	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gender	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Religion & belief	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sexual orientation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Summary of any issues/proposed changes													
Date	June 2020												
Date of next review	July 2021												
Responsible Staff	E Warrington												