

Sir Tom Finney Community School

ANTI – BULLYING POLICY SUMMARY

Every student has the right to feel secure, happy and free from intimidation. At our school we are committed to opposing bullying. Our policy is to challenge any form of bullying behaviour and to take appropriate steps when dealing with the victim and perpetrator. This may include providing support for those accused of bullying, who may be experiencing problems of their own. We are a TELLING school. This means that anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff.

EVENT CALENDER



Anti-Bullying Week
2017

Although school promotes anti-bullying the main event in the calendar is anti-bullying week.

This year's campaign is focused on -

“All Equal, All Different, All Together”

What is bullying?

Bullying is the planned dominance of one person, or group, over another and forms a pattern of behaviour. Incidents of physical bullying at Sir Tom Finney Community School are very uncommon. Generally it takes the form of name-calling, gossip, excluding a student from a group, interfering with other student's property and occasionally verbal threats. All of which are taken very seriously, investigated thoroughly and appropriate action taken.

*If your child displays any of the signs below this could indicate that they are being bullied. It is generally a combination of these signs, not necessarily **one**, that may mean your child is being bullied.*

- ◆ **Changes their usual routine**
- ◆ **Feels ill in the morning**
- ◆ **Not wanting to go to school**
- ◆ **A decline in the standard of school work**
- ◆ **Not sleeping well**
- ◆ **Stops eating**
- ◆ **Change of personality; not as happy as usual or not wanting to talk about school**
- ◆ **Has become withdrawn, anxious, or lacking in confidence**
- ◆ **Becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable**
- ◆ **Is bullying other children or siblings**
- ◆ **Is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone**
- ◆ **Loss or damage to clothing, books etc.**
- ◆ **Unexplained bruises, scratches etc.**
- ◆ **Starts stammering**
- ◆ **Obvious distress but will not talk about it**
- ◆ **Isolated and loss of friends**
- ◆ **Depression**

So what can parents, guardians and carers do?

When something is wrong most children will try to sort it out for themselves. It is important that we actively encourage children to talk about bullying and offer them support and swift sensitive action.

- ◆ **Listen to your child and believe what they are saying**
- ◆ **Gently determine the facts**
- ◆ **Assure them of your support and the school's**

Without sharing this information with the school the bullying may continue.

- ◆ **CONTACT THE SCHOOL: Tel: 01772 795749**
- ◆ **Speak to your child's Tutor or Head of Department as soon as possible**
- ◆ **Encourage your child to be 'open' with their Tutor or Head of Department**
- ◆ **Reassure your child that the school cares and will not let them come to any harm.**

If you suspect that your child is taking part in bullying please inform the school so that we can deal with the situation.

At Sir Tom Finney Community High we have a clear policy which deals with bullying. The staff take any known instances of bullying seriously and are active in challenging perpetrators. Some of our current students have commented that they had feared bullying

before they came to our school but found that they no longer felt threatened because “*staff took bullying seriously and there were good friendships across school*”.

Remember staff at Sir Tom Finney Community High:

Can help

Are available

Really listen and support sympathetically

Ensure action

The only way to deal with bullying is to encourage everyone to tell. Every student/pupil should feel that the school is a welcoming place where they can be happy and relaxed enough to take advantage of the educational opportunities that are being offered.

If you suspect your child is being bullied contact school immediately:

Tel: 01772 795749

For a copy of the school’s full Anti-Bullying Policy please contact Reception.

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