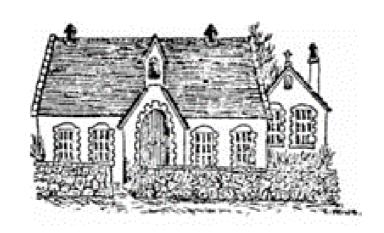
Honington CEVCP School Anti-Bullying Policy 2023





Honington CEVCP School Vision and Ethos: Policy and Procedures Strategy

Our vision is underpinned by two key phrases:

'Aspiration for All' and 'Live life in all its fullness' (John 10:10)

At Honington CEVCP School we are committed to our ethos as a warm, welcoming, nurturing school where we recognise and develop the unique gifts and personal qualities of all.

We offer a Christian approach to learning which is underpinned by our motto, 'Aspiration for All,' and, from the Bible, 'Live life in all its fullness.' (John 10:10)

We aim to provide an excellent education for everyone, so that all pupils will flourish in childhood and on into adolescence and adulthood.

We aim to equip all members of our school community with the knowledge, skills, personal resilience, creativity, emotional intelligence and social skills that give them every opportunity to experience lifelong success and happiness.

We believe it is important that we devise and approve Policy and Procedure documents with these key aims at the forefront of our minds. Therefore, all such documents will be prefaced by this statement.

Bullying is the persistent, premeditated, threatening behaviour which is designed to instill fear in the victim by an individual or group.

Bullying of any kind will not be tolerated in our school.

Bullying can include:

physical
verbal
emotional
racist
gender
disability based
peer group pressure
sexuality

Bullying can also take place via the internet or using mobile phones (or other communication media). It is important that the school raises awareness with pupils and parents of these forms of bullying and discuss strategies for dealing with them.

The Issue of Bullying will be dealt with the following way:

- 1. Teachers and other adults will record all incidents reported to them. These will be investigated by class teacher and/or Headteacher.
- 2. A senior teacher will interview and record both parties to ascertain cause and circumstances. Support will be given to bully and victim separately and every attempt will be made to reconcile pupils.
- 3. Teacher or Headteacher will inform parents of both victim and bully. In serious cases exclusion will be considered. The situation will then be monitored by the Teacher and Headteacher and a follow up interview with parents and children may take place to report findings as appropriate.
- 4. Discussion of matters and ways of dealing with bullying e.g. sharing concerns with friends/adults, raising self-esteem through PSHE circle time. Victims and bullies will often share a low self-esteem. We will work with the children who have been the victims of bullying to become more resilient without resorting to violence themselves.

Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying is when one person or a group of people try to threaten or embarrass someone else using a mobile phone or the internet. Cyberbullying is just as harmful as bullying in the real world.

There are lots of different types of cyberbullying. These are the main ones: **Email -** Sending emails that can be threatening or upsetting. Emails can be sent directly to a single target, or to a group of people to encourage them to become part of the bullying. These messages or 'hate mails' can include examples of racism, sexism and other types of prejudice.

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If someone forwards or laughs at a message, they're actually adding to the problem.

Instant messenger and chatrooms - Sending instant messenger and chatroom messages to friends or direct to a victim. Others can be invited into the bullying conversation, who then become part of it by laughing.

Social networking sites - Setting up profiles on social networking sites to make fun of someone. By visiting these pages or contributing to them, you become part of the problem and add to the feelings of unhappiness felt by the victim.

Mobile phone - Sending humiliating and abusive text or video messages, as well as photo messages and phone calls over a mobile phone. This includes anonymous text messages over short distances using Bluetooth technology and sharing videos of physical attacks on individuals (happy slapping).

Interactive gaming - Games consoles allow players to chat online with anyone they find themselves matched with in a multi-player game. Sometimes cyber bullies abuse other players and use threats. They can also lock victims out of games, spread false rumours about someone or hack into someone's account.

Sending viruses - Some people send viruses or hacking programs to another person that can destroy their computers or delete personal information from their hard drive.

Abusing personal information - Many victims of cyberbullying have complained that they have seen personal photos, emails or blog postings posted where others could see them without their permission.

Social networking sites make it a lot easier for web users to get hold of personal information and photos of people. They can also get hold of someone else's messaging accounts and chat to people pretending to be the victim.

Why do cyberbullies do it?

There's no simple answer for why some people choose to cause pain to others by bullying them. There are lots of possible reasons, but here are some common ones:

- it can be simply a case of someone being in the wrong place at the wrong time and allowing themselves to be easily intimidated
- some people who cyberbully think that they won't get caught if they do it on a mobile phone or on the internet
- the people who cyberbully are jealous, angry or want to have revenge on someone, often for no reason at all
- cyberbullies often think that getting their group of friends to laugh at someone makes them look cool or more popular
- some people also bully others as a form of entertainment or because they are bored and have too much time on their hands
- many do it for laughs or just to get a reaction

If we become aware of any of pupils encountering cyber bullying we will inform parents immediately, whether or not this has occurred at school.

In order to reduce the likelihood of cyberbullying we

- 1. Educate pupils about online safety and to ensure that they know that they must report any incident that they are concerned about.
- 2. Educate parents about online safety
- 3. Do not allow pupils to have mobile phones whilst in school (if they need to bring a phone to school it must be handed into the school office at the start of day and collected at the end of the day)

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4. Do not allow pupils to access social networking sites.

This statement forms part of our Behaviour and Safeguarding policies which are designed to promote the interests and well-being of our children.

April 2023

Next review April 2024