



**Cleveland  
School**

# **ANTI-BULLYING POLICY**

ADVICE FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS / CARERS

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to provide some additional context and advice for the Clevedon School Anti-Bullying Policy and should be read along with that policy.

The purpose of the policy is to reduce or eliminate incidences of bullying at Clevedon School and to ensure that targets of bullying are offered appropriate support.

Clevedon School takes a zero-tolerance stance to bullying.

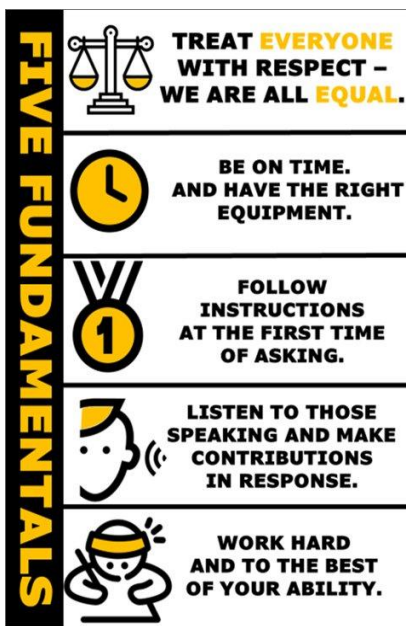
At the soul of our school ethos lies the values of 'Be Kind and Be Brilliant' and we continually strive to promote and instil these values in our community. We aim to create a healthy and safe environment (for our community) where all individuals take responsibility for their words and actions and demonstrate respect for others.

The Clevedon School Anti-Bullying policy is an integral part of the Child Protection and Safeguarding process. All staff have been trained on how to identify bullying, support those who are experiencing bullying and how to tackle bullying behaviours.

Bullying is a form of anti-social behaviour that has no place in this school. We ensure staff take reports seriously and have an 'it could happen here' approach.

The mental distress that bullying causes is considered when supporting those who have had experience of this.

## 2.0 BEST BEHAVIOUR FIRST – OUR FIVE FUNDAMENTALS



Nobody deserves to be bullied, and the school will act immediately to deal with this anti-social behaviour.

All students are reminded of the school's stance, and awareness is raised in:

- Assemblies.
- Citizenship lessons (curriculum).
- Tutor Time Activities.
- Signage and posters around school.
- Participation in Anti-Bullying Week & National Safer Internet Day.
- House system.
- Feature lectures (KS5).

The school's behaviour policy is based on Best Behaviour First and the Clevedon Way consists of 5 Fundamentals (see diagram). More information can be found in the behaviour policy.

All staff work collaboratively to ensure an anti-bullying culture is promoted at Clevedon School.

The pastoral structure at Clevedon School includes vertical tutoring which creates opportunities for all students of different ages to discuss issues related to bullying, including how to prevent and respond to bullying. It reminds students that bullying is not ok and should be reported.

The school's 'Be Kind and Be Brilliant' values remind students that everyone (staff and students) must treat each other with respect.

Clevedon School supports local and national bullying events, such as National Anti-Bullying week and National Safer Internet Day. Listening to student voice following this event is an integral part of the work that takes place, this is underpinned by the themes of kindness, respect and living without harm.

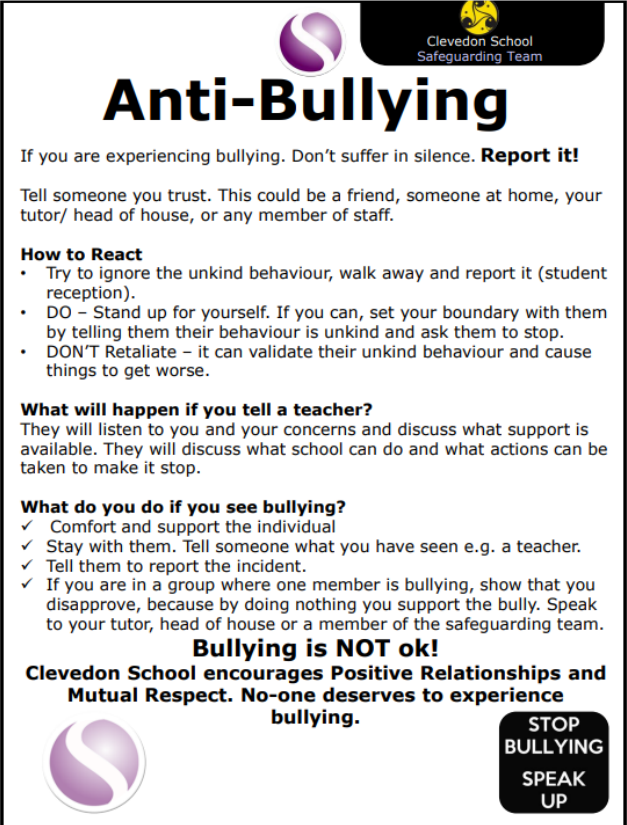

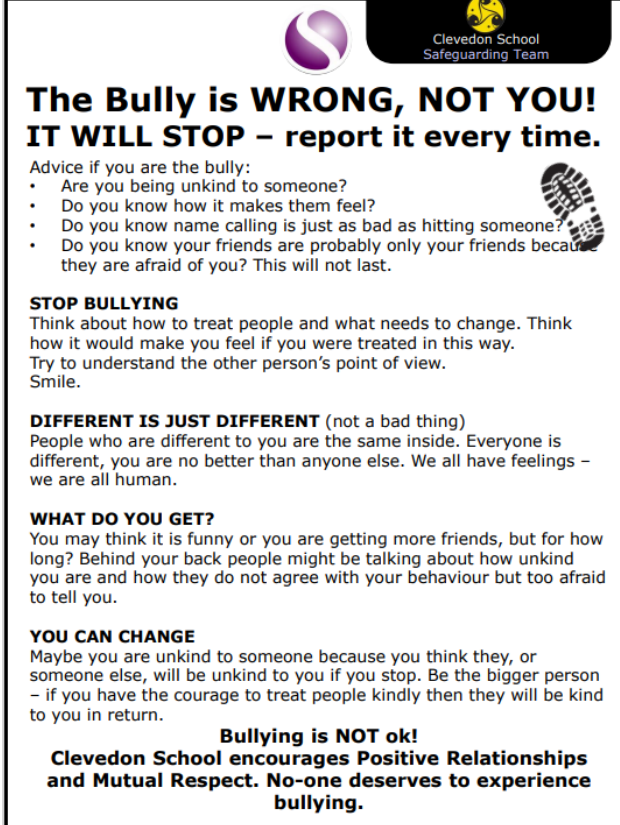
There are opportunities to report bullying on the journey to/from school using the method stated in this policy. Staff will be on duty where possible, visible in their fluorescent jacket/ tabard, on the main gate both in the morning and after school. At the end of the day staff will be present further along the rough track, this is to monitor student behaviours and allow students to report any concerns they have.

### 3.0 ADVICE FOR STUDENTS

- **Always respect others** – be careful what you say online and what images you send to others and publish on websites.
- **Think before you send** or publish – whatever you send can be made public very quickly and could stay online forever.
- **Protect your password** – keep it to yourself, do not share it with anyone or write it down somewhere someone could see it. Only give your mobile number or personal website address to trusted friends.
- **Block the bully** – learn how to block or report someone.
- **Don't retaliate or reply.**
- **Save the evidence** – learn how to keep records of offending messages, pictures, video/films or online conversations.
- Make sure you **report it** or call a helpline like ChildLine on 0800 1111 in confidence. You could also speak to the provider of the service to see where to report incidents.
- At our school – **speak to any member of staff.** Your tutor will usually be the best person to start with.
- Finally, **don't just stand there** – if you see online bullying going on, support the victim by reporting the bullying. How would you feel if no one stood up for you?

#### 3.1 Student posters around school

All students are provided with a clear guidance on the school's stance on bullying. All students are encouraged to respect each other and report any forms of bullying. They are reminded on a regular basis that there is a zero tolerance on bullying (all forms).

 <p><b>Anti-Bullying</b></p> <p>If you are experiencing bullying. Don't suffer in silence. <b>Report it!</b></p> <p>Tell someone you trust. This could be a friend, someone at home, your tutor/ head of house, or any member of staff.</p> <p><b>How to React</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Try to ignore the unkind behaviour, walk away and report it (student reception).</li><li>• DO – Stand up for yourself. If you can, set your boundary with them by telling them their behaviour is unkind and ask them to stop.</li><li>• DON'T Retaliate – it can validate their unkind behaviour and cause things to get worse.</li></ul> <p><b>What will happen if you tell a teacher?</b> They will listen to you and your concerns and discuss what support is available. They will discuss what school can do and what actions can be taken to make it stop.</p> <p><b>What do you do if you see bullying?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Comfort and support the individual</li><li>✓ Stay with them. Tell someone what you have seen e.g. a teacher.</li><li>✓ Tell them to report the incident.</li><li>✓ If you are in a group where one member is bullying, show that you disapprove, because by doing nothing you support the bully. Speak to your tutor, head of house or a member of the safeguarding team.</li></ul> <p><b>Bullying is NOT ok!</b> <b>Clevedon School encourages Positive Relationships and Mutual Respect. No-one deserves to experience bullying.</b></p> 	 <p><b>The Bully is WRONG, NOT YOU!</b> <b>IT WILL STOP – report it every time.</b></p> <p>Advice if you are the bully:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Are you being unkind to someone?</li><li>• Do you know how it makes them feel?</li><li>• Do you know name calling is just as bad as hitting someone?</li><li>• Do you know your friends are probably only your friends because they are afraid of you? This will not last.</li></ul> <p><b>STOP BULLYING</b> Think about how to treat people and what needs to change. Think how it would make you feel if you were treated in this way. Try to understand the other person's point of view. Smile.</p> <p><b>DIFFERENT IS JUST DIFFERENT</b> (not a bad thing) People who are different to you are the same inside. Everyone is different, you are no better than anyone else. We all have feelings – we are all human.</p> <p><b>WHAT DO YOU GET?</b> You may think it is funny or you are getting more friends, but for how long? Behind your back people might be talking about how unkind you are and how they do not agree with your behaviour but too afraid to tell you.</p> <p><b>YOU CAN CHANGE</b> Maybe you are unkind to someone because you think they, or someone else, will be unkind to you if you stop. Be the bigger person – if you have the courage to treat people kindly then they will be kind to you in return.</p> <p><b>Bullying is NOT ok!</b> <b>Clevedon School encourages Positive Relationships and Mutual Respect. No-one deserves to experience bullying.</b></p>
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### 4.0 GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS / CARERS

The school is committed to working in partnership with parents / carers to resolve bullying issues in a timely manner taking the appropriate actions.

#### **4.1 General guidance**

- If your child tells you they are being bullied, keep calm. Getting angry and threatening to visit the school or the parent / carer of the other student may not help.
- Praise them for telling you and reassure them that they have done the right thing in letting you know what is happening.
- Try to find out the facts.
- Actively listen. Accept your child's feelings, encourage them to talk about any worries.
- Help your child to think about what they would like to happen and ask how you can help.
- Encourage your child to talk to their tutor or head of house. If they do not want to then it is advisable for you, preferably with your child's support, to make the tutor or head of house aware that this is how they are feeling. Arrangements can be made for you to speak to a member of staff without making other students aware that this is being done. The sooner we know about a problem the quicker we can put in place appropriate intervention for all students involved and prevent bullying happening.
- Bullying can destroy confidence, and your child will be feeling vulnerable. Make them feel loved, valued and important.
- Talk to them about why people bully to reinforce the point that your child is not the problem.
- When you talk to the school, stay calm and give specific details. Remember that we are partners with you and we both want the best for your child.
- If after you have planned with the school and followed it up, you are still not happy with the situation, then please do contact the Head of House again, who will review the action taken to date and offer guidance and support for future interventions.
- If the bullying problem persists you have the right to follow the school complaints procedure.

#### **4.2 Online bullying advice**

- Be alert to your child seeming upset after using the internet or their mobile phone/technical device. This might involve subtle comments or changes in relationships with friends. They might be unwilling to talk or be secretive about their online activities and technical device use.
- Monitor internet use closely – your child may be suffering in silence. Be aware of their online activity, what they are accessing and who they are interacting with. Talk to them and put in boundaries where you have concerns.
- Talk with your children and understand the ways in which they are using the internet and their mobile phone / other device.
- Use the tools available on your computer. Find out how to turn on in-built internet safety features. Internet providers can be a good source for advice.
- Remind your child not to retaliate to messages.
- Keep the evidence of offending emails, text messages, files/videos or online conversations.
- Be aware, your child could be a cyber-bully as well as be a target of cyber bullying.

#### **4.3 Reporting online bullying**

- Contact your child's tutor or head of house if you think it may involve another student so that we can take appropriate action.
- Contact the service provider (Snapchat, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) and report the content / concern you have. Provide as much detail as possible.
- If the online bullying is serious and a potential criminal offence has been committed, you should consider contacting the police.

### **5.0 ONLINE BULLYING**

Please see also the Online Safety Policy.

The use of the internet (online bullying) and technical devices to bully is a very serious matter and can constitute a criminal offence. In the United Kingdom there are criminal laws that relate to harassment or threatening and menacing/malicious communications. These laws are applicable to students of secondary

school age.

The wider search powers included in the Education Act and the Department for Education document titled 'Searching, Screening and Confiscation' gives teachers stronger powers to tackle online bullying by providing a specific power to search for and, if necessary, delete inappropriate images (or files) on electronic devices, including mobile phones / any other device. Where the members of staff conducting the search finds an electronic device, they may examine the device for inappropriate content if they think there is a good reason to do so. Please see the Search, Screening and Confiscation policy for more information.

All school staff are aware that behaviours linked to sexting put a child in danger. The Designated Safeguarding Lead should be notified if it is suspected that sexting has taken place. They will make any subsequent decision in relation to the concern.

Working closely with parents / carers will usually provide the most effective way of sanctioning a student found to have engaged in online bullying activity. The ultimate outcome is to reform the views of the student engaging in the bullying activities and for the student bullied to feel reassured and clear that justice has been done.