



Merry Hill Infant School and Nursery

Anti-bullying Policy

Name/Title of responsible committee/individual:	Curriculum Committee
Date issued:	April 2018
Review frequency:	Annual
Target audience:	All stakeholders

The Governing Body shall conduct the School with a view to promoting high standards of educational achievement.

Merry Hill Infant School and Nursery is committed to eliminating discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity and fostering good relations between different groups. These factors were considered in the formation and review of this policy and will be adhered to in its implementation and application across the whole school community.

The School will promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and will actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.

Version	Date	Notes
V1.0	June 2015	Approved by Curriculum Committee
V1.0	April 2017	Updated, reviewed & approved by Curriculum Committee
V1.0	April 2018	Updated, reviewed & approved by Curriculum Committee

1 Rationale

At Merry Hill Infant School and Nursery, we recognise that preventing, raising awareness and consistently responding to any cases of bullying should be a priority to ensure the safety and emotional well-being of our pupils.

The purpose of this document is to establish and maintain a whole school Anti-Bullying Policy which recognises and affirms the right of every child to live and learn in a safe and secure environment.

This Anti-Bullying Policy dovetails with the whole school Behaviour Policy and should be read alongside it.

2 Statutory Responsibilities

Section 61 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (SSFA)

Human Rights Act (HRA) 1998

Race Relations Act 2000

3 Definition of Bullying

There are many definitions of bullying but Merry Hill has adopted the CSF definition:

Bullying is deliberately hurtful behaviour, repeated over time, where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves.

Bullying can take many forms, but the main types are:

- *Physical – hitting, kicking, taking or damaging belongings*
- *Verbal – name calling, insulting, making offensive remarks. Name calling is the most common direct form. This includes nasty names about individual characteristics, ethnic origin, nationality or colour, sexual orientation or some form of disability.*
- *Misuse of new technologies – sending texts on mobile phones, sending hurtful messages by email*
- *Indirect – spreading nasty stories about someone, exclusions from social groups, being made the subject of malicious rumours.*

We recognise that bullying in any form can have a potentially damaging and long-lasting impact on the mental health of children and young people who experience it.

4 Behaviour Policy

The Golden Rules; Golden Time and Circle Time have been agreed by Governors, staff and children as outlining the explicit behaviours that show respect and caring towards one another at Merry Hill. Golden Rules also incorporate physical safety measures.

The whole school Behaviour Policy includes a sequenced, consistent approach to teaching about bullying and a common strategy for dealing with incidents.