



TROTTS HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

ANTI-BULLYING AND CHILD ON CHILD BEHAVIOUR POLICY

Reviewed by:

Last review:

To be reviewed:

Headteacher

Summer Term 2026

Summer Term 2028

Adopted by Governors:

Date: September 2026

Bullying

The school is committed to providing a safe, respectful and inclusive environment where every child feels valued and protected.

Bullying is behaviour by an individual or group that is intended to hurt another person, is repeated over time and involves an imbalance of power that makes it difficult for the person experiencing the bullying to defend themselves.

Children are taught to remember the acronym ***STOP – Several Times On Purpose***, while recognising that some one-off incidents, particularly online or those motivated by prejudice, may be treated as bullying where the impact is significant.

Bullying may be:

- emotional
- verbal
- physical
- online (cyberbullying)
- prejudice-based, including bullying related to race, religion or belief, disability, sex, sexual orientation or gender reassignment
- sexual bullying or sexual harassment.

Bullying is not the same as occasional disagreements, friendship difficulties or isolated incidents of poor behaviour. These will still be taken seriously and addressed appropriately through restorative approaches and behaviour support.

Patterns of bullying, discriminatory behaviour, sexual harassment or harmful sexual behaviour will always be considered from a safeguarding perspective and referred to the Designated Safeguarding Lead where appropriate.

Child on Child Abuse

Behaviour concerns may indicate an unmet safeguarding need. Patterns of behaviour, significant changes in presentation, discriminatory incidents, harmful sexual behaviour, online behaviour or repeated emotional dysregulation will be considered alongside safeguarding information and, where appropriate, referred to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

The school recognises that children can abuse other children and that this can happen both inside and outside school, including online. Child on child abuse will never be dismissed as 'banter', 'part of growing up' or 'children being children'.

Child on Child abuse may include, but is not limited to:

- bullying (including cyberbullying and prejudice-based bullying)
- physical abuse
- emotional abuse
- sexual violence
- sexual harassment
- online sexual abuse
- sharing of nude or semi-nude images or videos
- upskirting
- initiation or hazing-type behaviours
- abuse within intimate personal relationships between children
- discriminatory behaviour relating to protected characteristics.

The school recognises that harmful behaviour may indicate unmet needs, previous trauma or safeguarding concerns. Wherever possible we will support all children involved while ensuring that the safety and wellbeing of those who have experienced harm remains paramount.

Child on child abuse occurs when a young person is exploited, bullied and/or harmed by their peers who are the same or similar age; everyone directly involved in child on child abuse is under the age of 18. Child on child abuse can relate to various forms of abuse (not just sexual abuse and exploitation).

Cyberbullying: involves sending inappropriate or hurtful text messages, emails or instant messages, posting malicious material online (e.g. on social networking websites) or sending or posting offensive or degrading images and videos;

Racist and Religious Bullying: A range of hurtful behaviour, both physical and psychological, that makes a person feel unwelcome, marginalised, excluded,

powerless or worthless because of their colour, ethnicity, culture, faith community, national origin or national status;

Sexual, Sexist and Transphobic Bullying: includes any behaviour, whether physical or non-physical, where sexuality is used as a weapon by boys or girls;

Homophobic Bullying: targets someone because of their sexual orientation (or perceived sexual orientation);

Disablist Bullying: targets a young person solely based on their disability, this can include manipulative bullying where a perpetrator forces the victim to act in a certain way, or exploiting a certain aspect of the victims disability

It is important to remember that bullying can also be a combination of the above. Bullying can be:

Emotional: being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures), ridicule, humiliation.

Verbal: name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, threats, teasing, making rude remarks, making fun of someone.

Physical: pushing, kicking, hitting, pinching, throwing stones, biting, spitting, punching or any other forms of violence, taking or hiding someone's things.

Racist: racial taunts, graffiti, gestures, making fun of culture and religion.

Sexual: unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive or sexist comments.

Homophobic: because of/or focussing on the issue of sexuality.

Online/cyber: setting up 'hate websites', sending offensive text messages, emails and abusing the victims via their mobile phones.

Any unfavourable or negative comments, gestures or actions made to someone relating to their disability or special educational needs.

Bullying is not:

It is important to understand that bullying is not the odd occasion of falling out with friends, name calling, arguments or when a trick or joke is played on someone. It is bullying if it is done several times on purpose (STOP). Children sometimes fall out or say things because they are upset. When one-off problems

of this kind arise it is not classed as bullying. It is an important part of children's development to learn how to deal with friendship breakdowns, name calling or pranks. We all have to learn how to deal with these situations and develop social skills to repair relationships.

All staff recognise that peer-on-peer abuse is a safeguarding concern and will respond in line with the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy. Incidents will be taken seriously, investigated appropriately and recorded on CPOMS. Where appropriate, concerns will be referred to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Procedures for Reporting and Responding to Bullying Incidents

All staff will respond calmly and consistently to all allegations and incidents of bullying. They will be taken seriously by all staff and dealt with impartially and promptly. All those involved will have the opportunity to be heard. Staff will protect and support all children involved whilst allegations and incidents are investigated and resolved. The following procedure will be used for reporting and responding to bullying allegations or incidents:

1. Report all bullying allegations and incidents to staff.
2. Any perceived bullying will be recorded and investigated and recorded (on bullying incident form if necessary).
3. Staff will make sure the victim(s) is and feels safe (added to bullying incident recording).
4. Appropriate advice will be given to help the victim(s).
5. Staff will listen and speak to all children involved about the incident separately.
6. The problem will be identified and possible solutions suggested.
7. The child displaying the bullying behaviour will be supported to understand the impact of their actions, take responsibility, repair relationships where appropriate and receive consequences that are proportionate, educational and restorative.

Other consequences may take place and appropriate consequences applied (see Consequences.)

8. Parents will be informed and will be invited to come into school for a meeting to discuss the problem.

9. After the incident has been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place. It will also be recorded and kept in a file in the Headteacher's office. Investigation notes will also be kept with report form.

10. The Headteacher will report the number of bullying incidents termly to the Governing Body and the Local Authority.

11. The Safeguarding Governor will present reports on serious bullying incidents to the Governors.

12. If necessary and appropriate, the Designated Safeguarding Lead in school, Social Services or police will be consulted.

Children know through the school values and expectations that harassment (including protected characteristics) and name calling will not be tolerated. All children know that they should tell a member of staff if they are victims of, or if they witness harassment linked to any of the protected characteristics.

All incidents of racial or sexual harassment are taken seriously and dealt with immediately. Our approach will follow the approach to incidents of bullying (see above). Incidents of racial prejudice based incidents harassment are reported to the Local Authority annually for monitoring purposes.

Harassment

Children know through the school rules that all types of harassment will not be tolerated. All children know that they should tell a member of staff if they are victims of, or if they witness - name calling, signs of racial harassment, sexual harassment or persistent teasing. All incidents of racial or sexual harassment are taken seriously and dealt with immediately after they are reported. Our approach will follow the approach to incidents of bullying (see above). Incidents are reported to the Governing Board termly for monitoring purposes.