

**Getting Along anti Bullying Policy**

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| **Policy Title:** | **Getting along Policy** |
| **Policy Author:** | **RDG** |
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## The Ethos and Values of Our School

Green Lane Church of England Primary is a rural school in the heart of Teesdale and at the centre of our local community. We offer a fantastic education based around achievement and success in a nurturing, holistic environment. At Green Lane we see the ultimate purpose of education as the promotion of “life in all its fullness” (St John’s Gospel, chapter 10, verse 10).

Here education is about more than just academic achievement; it is about developing young people who can flourish in all areas of their lives developing the intellectual, spiritual, moral and physical attributes, becoming proud and respectful members of our community. Our deeply Christian ethos and values are central to the experiences our children have each day as part of ‘Team GL.’

**Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Learning Trust Vision Statement:**

At the heart of our vision is our commitment to ensure all of our schools are places where children and young people develop and thrive academically, socially, culturally and spiritually. The drive for excellence and effectiveness in our schools is paramount, but not merely because the Government says so. The enabling of every child to flourish in their potential as a child of God is a sign and expression of the Kingdom and is at the heart of the Trust’s distinctive mission.

# Introduction

This policy outlines the school’s views on bullying in line with the school’s Behaviour Policy. Green Lane CE Primary School offers a caring, sharing environment where all children are valued. The development of maturity and self-esteem are paramount to providing the best learning environment. Headteachers have a legal duty under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 to draw up procedures to prevent bullying among pupils and bring these to the attention of staff, parents and pupils. This document applies to all irrespective of their gender, ethnicity, disability, religious beliefs/faith tradition, sexual orientation, age or any other of the protected characteristics (Single Equalities Act 2010). The school respects the rights of children and values the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). In particular this policy supports Articles 13, 16, 19, 29, 32 and 36. This document has been informed by:

* Durham County Council Anti-Bullying Policy and Guidelines.
* Green Lane School Brochure
* Every Child Matters 2003
* The Disability Discrimination Act (2002)
* DDA (DRA 1999)

# Aims

Green Lane CE Primary School is a learning community where all children are encouraged to see themselves as learners and participate in their own learning, within and beyond the school.

Our Behaviour Policy outlines in clear and straight forward terms our whole school approach to encourage all pupils to demonstrate positive emotional behaviour, conduct behaviour and learning behaviour whilst at school and in the wider community.

Positive action is taken to prevent bullying within SEAL, PSHE and citizenship lessons, through cross curricular learning opportunities and through promoting the school’s core Christian values.

Pupils learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied. Bullying is an anti-social behaviour and affects everyone; it is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. If bullying does occur, all pupils should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively.

# Definition

We define bullying as deliberately hurtful behaviour, repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. The main types of bullying are:

* physical (hitting, kicking, theft)
* emotional (being unfriendly, tormenting, excluding)
* Racist (racial taunts, graffiti, gestures)
* Sexual (unwanted physical contact or abusive comments)
* Homophobic (focusing on sexuality)
* Verbal (name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours)
* Cyber (e-mails, text messaging or misuse of technology)

**Pupils who are being bullied may show changes in behaviour, such as becoming shy and nervous, feigning illness, taking unusual absences or clinging to adults. There may be evidence of changes in work patterns, lacking concentration or truanting from school. Pupils must be encouraged to report bullying in schools. All school staff must be alert to the signs of bullying and act promptly and firmly against it in accordance with school policy.**

# Scope

All adults and children within the school community need to have an understanding of bullying. This policy document applies to all aspects of school life.

# Entitlement

Everyone at Green Lane has the right;

* To work and play in a safe and secure environment, free from aggression and abuse.
* To express their attitudes and feelings constructively and have these respected by others.
* To have an uninterrupted education.
* To have personal property respected.

Everyone at Green Lane has the responsibility;

* To behave acceptably in all situations.
* To accept the consequences of their actions.
* To understand their responsibilities in the learning process.
* To be polite and co-operative with everyone respecting their rights and feelings.
* To respect public property and other children’s personal property.

# Expectations

Pupils who have been bullied are supported by;

* The opportunity to discuss the experience with a member of staff of their choice
* Reassurance
* Support to restore self-esteem and confidence

Pupils who are bullying will be helped by:

* Discussing what happened
* Discovering why they became involved
* Establishing the wrong doing
* Informing parents or guardians to help change the attitude of the pupil
* Incidents will follow the responses to the ‘Procedures for dealing with allegations of bullying’ flow chart (see Appendix 1)

Staff are expected to adhere to the following procedures;

* If bullying is suspected or reported to an adult, the incident will be dealt with immediately or at an agreed time
* A clear account of the incident will be recorded on CPOMS with pupils or parents and a notification sent to the Headteacher
* Class teachers and parents will be informed
* Sanctions will be used as appropriate in consultation with all parties following the flow chart of procedures (see Appendix 1)

Parents are expected to:

* Help their children behave properly
* Work co-operatively with teacher and child in assisting the child’s learning and in building positive attitudes towards learning and school
* Instill in their children a respect for others, and others property, and to help develop a positive feeling about themselves
* Talk in confidence to the child’s teacher, the Headteacher or the school’s Wellbeing Lead

# Procedures for reporting and responding to bullying

See Appendix 1: Procedures for dealing with allegations of bullying for details and stages of responses

# Strategies for the prevention and reduction of bullying

The school’s Christian ethos provides a caring and nurturing environment for all children and Year 6 children act as buddies for the younger children. Behaviour values to support our core Christian values are promoted through Character Charts and are reinforced regularly. Logs of incidents and investigations are kept by the school on its online monitoring system: CPOMS. Incidents are notified to the Senior Leadership Team on a daily basis. This enables staff to pick up any patterns of antisocial behaviour and deal with it before it escalates. PSHE and citizenship is taught and assessed across the curriculum to promote positive friendships.

# Appendices

Appendix 1: Procedures for dealing with allegations

Appendix 1

**Procedures for dealing with allegations**

Parent/pupil reports incident to adult

In consultation with child and parents (on both sides) implement action plan to stop bullying

Report action to parents/carer

Notification passed to Headteacher (HT)

Adult supporter listens to details and assesses, either immediately or at an agreed time

Adult to complete Incident Log with child and/or with parent on CPOMS

Incident on CPOMS read by Headteacher and circulated to SLT. Decision by HT on whether to log as a ‘bullying investigation’

No further action taken

Reasons for bullying investigation to be made clear to both sets of parents and both children

Adult believes that there is evidence of bullying. Incident passed to HT to investigate over an agreed period with parents

Adult discusses incidents of alleged bullying with accused pupil and agrees course of action

Staff in school to be informed by HT that an investigation is ongoing for any staff to be hyper vigilant and log any incidents on CPOM

Involve other agencies where deemed necessary

HT to collate incidents on CPOMS and merge with bullying investigation incident. Reporting findings to parents when completed.

Refer to police if deemed necessary

Additional action

Follow up with adult and pupils. Hold review meeting to discuss if outcome is satisfactory or if additional action (such as suspension) is necessary