



Southfields Primary School

Anti-bullying Policy

Date agreed: September 2025

Review Date: September 2026

This policy, having been presented to, and agreed upon by the whole staff and Governors, will be distributed to:

- All teaching staff
- School governors

A copy of the policy will also be available in:

- The Staffroom
- School website

This will ensure that the policy is readily available to visiting teachers, support staff and parents.

Southfields Primary is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for all children. We take bullying seriously and will take all reasonable steps to prevent it, to identify it quickly when it occurs, and to respond effectively.

We recognise that some children may be more vulnerable to bullying, including those with additional needs, speech and language difficulties, or other challenges, and we are dedicated to ensuring that all pupils are supported appropriately. Our approach emphasises early intervention, restorative practices, and collaboration with parents, staff, and external agencies to promote positive relationships and prevent harm.

1. Introduction

Southfields Primary School promotes values which reject bullying behaviour and promote co-operative, positive behaviour. Tackling bullying matters.

This policy has been developed and implemented in consultation with the whole school community. It was written with reference to the Equality Act 2010.

This policy should be read alongside our policies on Behaviour, Equality and Diversity, Teaching and Learning, Special Educational Needs, Children known to Social Care and Safeguarding.

Parents of both parties will be informed.

2. Statement of Intent

Southfields Primary School is committed to providing a **supportive, caring, and safe environment** in which every child is free from fear of bullying. We take all forms of bullying seriously and do not tolerate bullying by children or adults.

Staff, pupils, and parents are made aware of our zero-tolerance approach. We hold high expectations for behaviour and challenge any behaviour that falls below this. Anyone aware of bullying is expected to report it to a member of staff.

Victims of bullying will be treated with care and support. Incidents are dealt with promptly, recorded using **MyConcern**, and monitored closely. The Deputy Headteacher with responsibility for Inclusion maintains a log of incidents, supported by any video evidence and behaviour records as required.

3. What is bullying?

We recognise that conflict is a normal part of relationships but distinguish it from bullying.

In Southfields Primary School, our definition of bullying is:

“The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. It can occur face-to-face or online.”



4. Why is it important to respond to bullying?

National research has shown that some groups of pupils are particularly vulnerable to bullying these include pupils with SEND, children known to Social Care, pupils from minority ethnic groups or faiths, young carers, LGBT pupils and those perceived to be LGBT.

Bullying negatively affects **wellbeing, attendance, engagement and learning outcomes**. It can contribute to anxiety, depression, and social difficulties.

At Southfields Primary School:

- Everyone has the right to be treated with respect.
- Everyone has the right to feel safe and happy.
- No child deserves to be bullied.
- Pupils who bully need support to develop positive behaviours.

5. Types of bullying behaviour

Bullying can take many forms and some examples are outlined below:

- Emotional - being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting, threatening behaviour
- Verbal - name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing, use of derogatory language
- Physical - pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Extortion - demanding money/goods with threats
- Online – use of social media, messaging and calls. Misuse of associated technology e.g. photos and videos.
- Racist - racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Sexual - unwanted physical contact, sexually abusive comments
- Homophobic or biphobic- bullying because of sexuality or perceived sexuality
- Transphobic – because of gender identity or perceived gender identity

6. Preventing bullying

We educate pupils about **Protected Characteristics, British Values and Rights of Children** through assemblies and PSHE lessons.

Preventing bullying is the responsibility of the **entire school community**.

Strategies include:

- Involving pupils and staff in policy development
- Assemblies and circle time to differentiate conflict from bullying
- Promoting an ethos of **respect and inclusion**
- Social skills and emotional learning programmes
- Staff training, including safeguarding and supporting vulnerable groups
- Playground supervision and structured activities
- Online safety education

7. Reporting Bullying

At Southfields Primary School, pupils are encouraged to talk to staff when they are unhappy or have concerns. Pupils in our school understand that they have a right to feel and be safe and a responsibility to support others to feel and be safe.

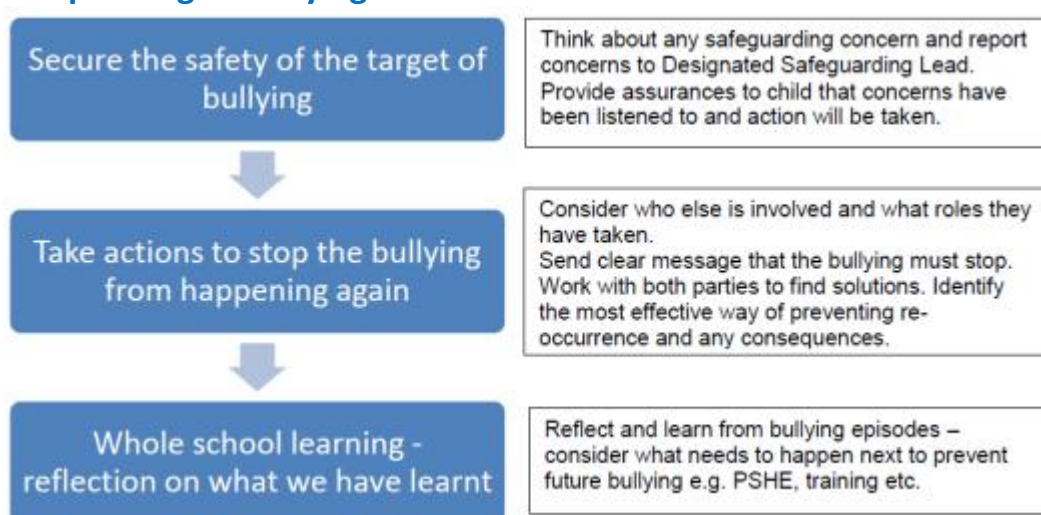
Pupils are taught that it is important to talk to a trusted adult if bullying is taking place outside of school.

Pupils are encouraged to report bullying to:

- A trusted adult
- Class teacher / teaching assistant
- Peer mentors or buddies
- Class 'worry box'

Parents should report concerns to the class teacher first. Staff are trained to **listen, believe and act**. Children are involved in finding solutions wherever possible.

8. Responding to bullying



We monitor and review all bullying incidents to determine any patterns or trends that may require further action.

On a regular basis we give pupils the opportunity to feedback on how safe and happy they feel at school, we do this through our collection of pupil voice and our School Council meetings.

All staff are required to notify a bullying and prejudice-based incident by reporting on our online safeguarding system, MyConcern. This should be completed as soon as possible and given to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

9. Procedures for parents

If a parent has concerns:

1. Speak to the class teacher.
2. If unresolved, escalate to the Deputy Headteacher for Inclusion/ DSL or the Headteacher.

Parents **should not confront the alleged bully or their parents** to avoid complicating the situation.

The school will communicate directly with all children and parents involved. Parents are kept informed at every stage. If concerns remain, the **Complaints Policy** should be followed.

All members of the school community are expected to treat each other with **dignity and respect**, both in person and online.

Planned events this year include:

- Anti-Bullying Week takes place annually in November with a nationally coordinated theme.
- Activities include assemblies, workshops and Odd Socks Day to celebrate diversity and promote respect.
- Themes are chosen to empower children to take positive action against bullying.