Turnfurlong Infant School

Anti-Bullying Policy 2026-27

Policy objectives:

This policy outlines what Turnfurlong Infant School will do to prevent and tackle all forms of bullying. Turnfurlong Infant School is committed to developing an anti-bullying culture where the bullying of adults, children or young people is not tolerated in any form. We know that by effectively preventing and tackling bullying we can help to create a safe and disciplined environment, where pupils are able to learn and fulfil their potential.

The policy will be reviewed at least annually, and following any concerns and/or updates to national/local guidance or procedures. The policy is based on DfE guidance "Preventing and Tackling Bullying" July 2017 and supporting documents. It also considers the DfE statutory guidance "Keeping Children Safe in Education" September 2026 and "Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges" September 2021.

What is bullying?

Bullying can be defined as "behaviour by an individual or a group, repeated over time that intentionally hurts another individual either physically or emotionally" (DfE "Preventing and Tackling Bullying", July 2017)

Bullying can include name calling, taunting, mocking, making offensive comments; kicking; hitting; taking belongings; producing offensive graffiti; gossiping; excluding people from groups and spreading hurtful and untruthful rumours. This includes the same unacceptable behaviours expressed online, sometimes called online or cyberbullying. This can include: sending offensive, upsetting and inappropriate messages by phone, text, instant messenger, through gaming, websites, social media sites and apps, and sending offensive or degrading photos or videos. Bullying is recognised by the school as being a form of peer on peer abuse. It can be emotionally abusive and can cause severe and adverse effects on children's emotional development.

This policy covers all types and forms of bullying including:

- Bullying related to physical appearance
- Bullying of young carers, children in care or otherwise related to home circumstances
- Bullying related to physical/mental health conditions
- Physical bullying
- Emotional bullying
- Sexual bullying
- Bullying via technology, known as online or cyberbullying
- Prejudicial bullying (against people/pupils with protected characteristics):
- Bullying related to race, religion, faith and belief and for those without faith
- Bullying related to ethnicity, nationality or culture
- Bullying related to Special Educational Needs or Disability (SEND)

- Bullying related to sexual orientation (homophobic/biphobic bullying)
- Gender based bullying, including transphobic bullying
- Bullying against teenage parents (pregnancy and maternity under the Equality Act)

What happens when a child reports an incident?

When an incident is reported it is important that the member of staff speaks to the children involved in order to resolve the situation.

Deliberate, hurtful behaviour is not acceptable and is dealt with promptly by finding out:

1. What has happened
2. How often it has happened
3. Who was involved
4. Who witnessed the event
5. Where it happened
6. Whether action has already been taken
7. Providing support and reassurance

During computing sessions, and where children have access to i-pads, the internet is filtered and therefore inappropriate sites are blocked. Staff should be vigilant and monitor what the children are accessing, ensuring the appropriateness of websites before teaching.

Sanctions, as identified within the school behaviour policy, and support will be implemented in consultation with all parties concerned.

The school will ensure parents/carers are kept informed about the concern and action taken, as appropriate and in line with child protection and confidentially policies.

If necessary, other agencies may be consulted or involved, such as the police, if a criminal offence has been committed, or other local services including Children's Social Care, if a child is felt to be at risk of significant harm.

Pupils will be supported by:

- Reassuring the pupil and providing ongoing support.
- Offering an immediate opportunity to discuss the experience with their teacher, the designated safeguarding lead, or a member of staff of their choice.
- Working towards restoring self-esteem and confidence.
- Engaging with parents and carers.

Pupils who have perpetrated bullying will be helped by:

- Discussing what happened, establishing the concern and the need to change.

- Informing parents/carers to help change the attitude and behaviour of the child.
- Providing appropriate education and support regarding their behaviour or actions.
- If online, requesting that content be removed and reporting accounts/content to service provider.

How do we support an anti-bullying culture at Turnfurlong Infant School?

Opportunities are taken in assemblies and classrooms through RHE and Computing to discuss and illustrate:

- aspects of positive behaviour;
- building relationships;
- fostering attitudes of caring, tolerance and respect;
- encouraging co-operative behaviour;
- what constitutes unkind behaviour

- Our 'Golden Rules' for positive behaviour are on display in classrooms and in the playground

- We challenge practice and language (including 'banter') which does not uphold the school values of tolerance, non-discrimination and respect towards others

- Acts of kindness are acknowledged and rewarded by stickers, house points, leaves and Headteacher awards during assemblies and also within the classrooms.

- Children are asked about their experience of playtime and lunchtime on their return to the classroom by showing a 'thumbs up' or 'thumbs down'. This gives the children the opportunity to signal good/bad playtimes. Where a child indicates that they have not had a good a playtime the reasons for this are always discussed with them by their teacher or teaching assistant.

Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of:

- The Headteacher to communicate this policy to the school community, to ensure that disciplinary measures are applied fairly, consistently and reasonably, and that a member of the senior leadership team has been identified to take overall responsibility. In our school this is our Headteacher, Mrs Rebecca Ochiltree.
- The Headteacher to report on behaviour and incidents of bullying to the Governing Body on a termly basis
- Governors to take a lead role in monitoring and reviewing this policy.
- All staff, including: governors, senior leadership, teaching and non-teaching staff, to support, uphold and implement this policy accordingly.

- Parents/carers to support their children and work in partnership with the school.
- Pupils to abide by the policy.

Links with other school policies and practices:

This policy links with several school policies, practices and action plans including:

- Behaviour policy
- Complaints policy
- Child protection policy
- Confidentiality policy
- Online and Acceptable Use Policies (AUP)
- Curriculum policies, such as: RHE and computing
- Buckinghamshire County Council HR policies

Key Contact Personnel

Nominated Member of Leadership Staff Responsible for the policy: Rebecca Ochiltree, Headteacher

Designated Safeguarding Lead (s): Rebecca Ochiltree, Headteacher

Jenny Glen, Deputy, Headteacher (Deputy DSL)

Karen Henry, Year 1 Lead (Deputy DSL)

Vicky Stockwell, EYFS Lead (Deputy DSL)

Named Governor with lead responsibility: Charlotte Austin, Chair of Governors

Date written: December 2019

Date agreed and ratified by Governing Body: December 2019

Reviewed Autumn 2020, 2021, 2022

14th September 2023

12th September 2024

Date of next review: Autumn 2026