



BISHOP VESEY'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Anti-Bullying Policy

Review Prepared by:	Headteacher
Approved by and date:	Full Board of Governors 28 September 2020
School's next review date/by whom:	Autumn 2021 by Full Board of Governors
Signed by Chair of Governors 28 September 2020	

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Our vision is to be a warm, outward looking community, celebrating diversity and supporting others.

We believe it is every member of the School Community's right to go to school in safety and to be free from harassment, and for every student to receive their education free from humiliation, oppression and abuse.

Bullying is any act or incident that repeatedly causes distress to an individual or group, be it verbal, psychological or physical. Bullying can include name-calling, taunting, mocking, making offensive comments, excluding people from activities/groups, physical assault, taking and/or damaging other people's property, spreading hurtful rumours and cyberbullying.

Specific types of bullying include bullying related to religion, race or culture; bullying related to special educational needs; bullying related to sexual orientation; bullying related to gender and bullying related to appearance.

It is the responsibility of all members of our community to ensure that bullying does not happen at BVGS.

Students are expected to report any incident or on-going problem to a member of staff – Form Tutor, Head of Year or the first available person. We undertake to handle these matters discretely and sensitively. Students can also use the Toot Toot system to report bullying of any form. Parents are invited to contact the Head Teacher, Form Tutor, Head of Year or any other member of staff should they be concerned about any possible indication of bullying.

Staff are encouraged to watch out for the early signs of distress in students e.g. deterioration of work, spurious illness, isolation, the desire to remain with adults, erratic attendance. Whilst this behaviour may be symptomatic of other problems, it may be the early signs of bullying.

Staff will follow up any cases which should occur, both to ensure that the victim is supported and that the recurrence of the behaviour is prevented. Documentation is essential. Staff must keep full records of all interviews and discussions regarding incidents. Parents/carers will be informed of our actions so that they can reinforce and support us.

Students are taught through the pastoral programme that everyone has a duty to ensure that bullying does not occur, and other areas of the curriculum are used to get the message across.

The school is thoroughly supervised to promote positive relationships at all times.

Above all we don't want students to suffer in silence. We will never tolerate bullying.

Our Anti-Bullying Policy is linked to our Behaviour Policy (including Appendix on Discrimination and Prejudice Related Incidents), Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, Acceptable Use and E-Safety Policies, Equality and Diversity Policy and SEN Policy.