



Anti-Bullying Policy



1 RATIONALE

- 1.1 King James's School believes that its learners have the right to learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without the fear of being bullied.
- 1.2 It is important therefore that the School has a clear written policy to promote this belief, where both learners and parents/carers are fully aware that any bullying complaints will be dealt with firmly, fairly and promptly.

2 PRINCIPLES

- 2.1 Aims:
 - The provision of equal opportunities for all our pupils
 - The creation of an ordered and civilised environment for learning
 - The promotion of positive and confident relationships between pupils
- 2.2 Our policy is to promote an ethos where all pupils, parents and staff treat each other with respect. We insist on polite and civilised relationships.
- 2.3 The first aspect of our policy is proactive – to foster a tolerant, friendly and purposeful atmosphere in which bullying is less likely to occur. Adults in school reinforce the aims and values in the standards they set in their relationships with children and other adults, as well as in their expectations of the behaviour of pupils.
- 2.4 The second aspect of our policy is to be active in observing and recognising forms and patterns of behaviour which may be bullying. We take all cases of reported bullying seriously and act upon them.

3 DEFINITIONS

- 3.1 Bullying is when people repeatedly and deliberately, hurt, harass or intimidate someone else by:
 - Name-calling
 - Leaving someone out
 - Pinching, pushing, punching kicking or fighting
 - Theft
 - Being a member of a group of learners who intimidate others
 - Interfering with someone else's property
- 3.2 Cyber Bullying is when one person or a group of people aim to threaten, tease or embarrass someone else by using a mobile phone, the internet or other technologies.

4 SCHOOL OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 The school objectives are:
 - To raise awareness among staff, learners, parents/carers about the issue of bullying to create an environment in which bullying is seen as unacceptable.
 - To be proactive in the prevention of bullying.
 - To make learners, parents/carers and staff aware of what steps to take when an incident of bullying has occurred.
 - To demonstrate to bullies that their behaviour is unacceptable and to reassure victims that action will be taken to keep them safe.

- To address with bullies their problematic behaviour in a fair and firm manner in line with the school's Behaviour for Learning Policy, providing support to enable them to change their behaviour.

5 ADVICE TO STUDENTS & PARENTS/CARERS

5.1 If you are **being bullied**:

- Tell yourself that you do not deserve to be bullied, and that it is wrong.
- Try not to show that you are upset, which is difficult.
- Avoid being in places that bullying happens.
- If you are different in some way, be proud of it.
- If possible stay with a group of friends/people. There is safety in numbers.
- Be assertive - shout "No!" Walk confidently away. Go straight to someone you trust.
- Speak to Parents, Carers, Form Tutor, any teacher you trust, Prefects, any other learners.
- If you feel you cannot talk to people you know about bullying you can contact a number of services. See the anti-bullying guidance in the planner.

5.2 If you **know someone is being bullied**:

- TAKE ACTION! Watching and doing nothing looks as if you are on the side of the bully. It makes the victim feel more unhappy and on their own.
- If you feel you cannot get involved, tell an adult immediately. Teachers have ways of dealing with the bully without getting you into trouble.
- Do not be, or pretend to be, friends with a bully.

5.3 As a parent:

- Look for unusual behaviour in your children. For example, they may suddenly not wish to attend school, feel ill regularly, or not complete work to their normal standard.
- Always take an active role in your child's education. Enquire how their day has gone, who they have spent their time with, how lunch time was spent etc.
- If you feel your child may be a victim of bullying behaviour, inform the School immediately. Your complaint will be taken seriously and appropriate action will follow.
- It is important that you advise your child not to fight back. It can make matters worse!
- Tell your own son or daughter there is nothing wrong with him or her. It is not his or her fault that they are being bullied.
- Make sure your child is fully aware of the School policy concerning bullying, and that they will not be afraid to ask for help.

5.4 If you feel you cannot talk to people you know about bullying, you can contact one of the following external organisations:

- **ChildLine**
ChildLine is the UK's free, confidential helpline for children and young people. They offer advice and support, by phone and online, 24 hours a day. Whenever and wherever you need them, they'll be there. Call 0800 1111.
- **CyberMentors**
CyberMentors is a safe social networking site providing information and support for young people affected by bullying.
- **Connexions Direct**
080 800 13 2 19 for young people aged 13-19. Calls from a landline are free so they won't show on a phone bill. Calls from a mobile are charged but if you ring them on your mobile – they will call you back.
- **EACH**
EACH has a freephone helpline for children experiencing homophobic bullying: 0808 1000 143. It's open Monday to Friday 10am-5pm.
- **NSPCC**
01515474646

5.5 The following websites have lots of information and advice for anyone who has had experience of bullying. The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) maintains a website for children and young people, parents and carers about staying safe online:

Think UKnow	www.thinkuknow.co.uk/
NSPCC advice on bullying	www.nspcc.org.uk/
Childline tips on bullying	www.childline.org.uk
Bullying UK	www.bullying.co.uk
Kidscape	www.kidscape.org.uk
Young Anti-Bullying Alliance	Young Anti-Bullying Alliance