

Anti-bullying Policy Statement: Milton Abbot School

Milton Abbot School upholds every child's right to feel safe and secure during every activity at school, even in a virtual setting, which encompasses the right to enjoy their learning, be listened to and to be treated fairly.

Our Policy Statement

The individual

- Respect every child's needs for, and rights to, a learning environment where safety, security, praise, recognition, and opportunity for taking responsibility are available.
- Respect for every individual's feelings and views.
- Recognise that everyone is important and that our differences make each of us special.
- Show appreciation of other, by acknowledging individual qualities, contributions and progress.
- Ensure safety by having anti-bullying rules and practices, developed with the participation of children and young people, carefully explained and displayed for all to see.

Bullying

- **Bullying will not be accepted or tolerated. All forms of bullying will be addressed immediately.**
- **We offer regular advice to our pupils about how to be good friends and operate a 'Friendship Stop', led by the Milton Model Citizen children; a key message is to look at someone's reaction to your words: are they looking happy? Or has playful become teasing become bullying...?**
- **Bullying can take different forms but the general message, through assemblies, circle times and pupil discussion is: Bullying occurs when the same thing is done**

**Several
Times
On
Purpose**

Bullying can take many forms, some more obvious than others perhaps, but could include:

- Physical pushing, kicking, hitting, pinching etc.
- Name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, persistent teasing and emotional torment through ridicule, humiliation, and the continual ignoring of individuals
- Racial or homophobic taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Sexualised comments, and/or suggestions, including via social media or virtual platforms
- Unwanted physical contact
- We are aware as a school, that statistically there are groups of children who are most vulnerable to being teased and bullied: SEN children with learning difficulties, children from ethnic minorities, disabled children, young people who are gay or lesbian, or those from poorer backgrounds.
- Staff and volunteers will have access to training on anti-bullying and support from the Headteacher
- Where a child's bullying behaviour is of a particularly violent or aggressive nature and the establishment is unable to address the behaviour through behaviour management strategies

or disciplinary measures within a reasonable time, including working effectively with home, the school will seek urgent advice/support from the DCC Behaviour support team.

- Incidents are recorded on our 'Stop Stop' system and an overview maintained electronically.
- Consistency of approach is fundamental, including regular follow ups after an incident has been reported and dealt with: an open, honest culture is key, as well as giving pupils responsibility for their actions.

Every November Milton Abbot School takes part in the national 'Anti-bullying' week, whereby we put the focus on caring, difference and standing together for what is right.

Ref: PUP 05