

Bullying is unacceptable as it affects the social, emotional well-being and development of students and will not be tolerated in our school. We have an anti-bullying policy and strategies to prevent and reduce bullying

1 What is bullying?

There are many definitions of bullying but most have three things in common:

- It is deliberately hurtful behaviour.
- It is repeated over a period of time.
- It is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves.

Bullying can take many forms. The four main types are:

- Physical - hitting, kicking, and taking belongings.
- Verbal – name calling, insulting, racist or sexist remarks,
- Cyberbullying - sending texts, video clips, e-mail and MSN messages.
- Indirect - spreading nasty stories about someone, excluding someone from friendship or social groups.

2 We aim to prevent bullying by encouraging our students:

- To build co-operative relationships with others.
- To avoid and resist bullying behaviour at any level.
- To resolve difficult situations without resorting to bullying or violence.

3 We tackle any bullying in school because:

- Students who are being bullied are unlikely to concentrate fully on their school work.
- Some students avoid being bullied by not going to school.
- Some students who observe unchallenged bullying behaviour may copy this anti-social behaviour.
- Students deserve to feel safe and secure at home (Cyberbullying), at school and on the way to and from school.

4 Dealing with incidents of bullying:

Students - if you have been bullied:

- If you feel able, ask the bully to stop.
- Tell a teacher or another adult in school.
- If you are scared to tell a teacher or adult on your own, ask a friend to go with you.
- Tell your family.
- Send an e-mail to the Blatch Bully Line *blatchbullyline@blatchingtonmill.org.uk*
- Speak to one of our Supportive Listeners/Peer Listeners or Senior Students.

Parents and, Families/Friends –

- Watch for signs of bullying. Monitor MSN/computer use.
- Talk to your child about the situation.
- Contact your child's Form Tutors or Year Tutor immediately if you are worried.

School friends –

- Alert a teacher to your concerns.
- Talk to your friend about the situation.

School -

- Any bullying will be treated seriously.
- The response will depend on the nature of the incident.
- This could range from reprimands for one - off mild offences to exclusions for serious incidents.
- If appropriate, counseling, conflict resolution and problem solving approaches may be used.
- Cyberbullying may be reported to the police.

***All students are asked to take positive action against bullying rather than ignoring it or colluding with it.
Silence allows bullies to bully!
Say NO to bullying.***

Further information on bullying can be found at:-

Confidential hotline on:
01273 736244 ext 255.

blatchbullyline@blatchingtonmill.org.uk

www.need2know.co.uk/relationships/bullying

www.direct.gov.uk/Parents/WorriedAbout

www.parentlineplus.org.uk/

www.kidscape.org.uk

www.bullying.co.uk

www.antibullying.net/

Information about safe use of the Internet for parents and students can be found at:-

www.internetsafetyzone.co.uk

CONTACT IN SCHOOL

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