



ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

MORICE TOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Statement of Intent

We are committed to providing a **caring, respectful and tolerant** environment for all of our pupils so they can learn in a relaxed, safe and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind, including **social media bullying** is unacceptable and considered '**very risky**' for the perpetrator (see behaviour category E). If bullying does occur, all pupils should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a **TELLING** school. This means that **anyone** who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff.

Bullying is:

- **deliberately** hurtful.
- **repeated** over a period of time.
- a situation whereby victims find it **difficult to defend** themselves.

Bullying can be:

- Emotional being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures).
- Physical pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence.
- Racist racial taunts, graffiti, gestures.
- Sexual unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments.
- Homophobic because of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality.
- Verbal name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing.

Bullying can take place anywhere or at any time. It can be face to face, through a third party or using technological devices and the internet via computers or mobile phones.

Why is it important to respond to bullying?

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect. Pupils who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving. All schools have a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

Objectives of this Policy

- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- All governors and teaching and non-teaching staff should know what the school policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported.
- All pupils and parents should know what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises.
- As a school we take bullying seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Bullying will not be tolerated.

Signs and Symptoms

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that he or she is being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and that they should investigate if a child:

- is frightened of walking to or from school
- doesn't want to go on the school / public bus
- begs to be driven to school
- changes their usual routine

- is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
- begins truanting
- becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence
- starts stammering
- attempts or threatens suicide or runs away
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- feels ill in the morning
- begins to do poorly in school work
- comes home with clothes torn or books damaged
- has possessions go "missing"
- asks for money or starts stealing money (to pay bully)
- has dinner or other monies continually "lost"
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- comes home starving (money / lunch has been stolen)
- becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- is bullying other children or siblings
- stops eating
- is frightened to say what's wrong
- becomes secretive about their internet use
- withdraws into a solitary place (e.g. bedroom)
- gives improbable excuses or explanations for any of the above

These signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated

Procedures

1. Report bullying incidents to staff.
2. In cases of serious bullying, the incidents will be recorded by staff.
3. In serious cases parents should be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem.
4. If necessary and appropriate, school and parents can jointly consult the Police.
5. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly.
6. An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour.
7. Victims of bullying will be supported and provided, if necessary, with 'assertiveness training'

Agreed by staff/Governors: **June 2026**

Next review due on or before: **June 2027**

[It is important that the positive behaviour policy is read alongside this policy.](#)