

BULLYING POLICY

We are a very successful and effective school. Our success is based on good teaching, good order and good relationships both within School and between School and home. However, we accept that we are not immune from bullying and that we need to be pro-active in preventing it and quick and sensitive in our response to it when it does occur.

References to School Strategies are to be found in the following:-

- {a} School Behaviour Policy
- {b} Information booklet for new parents
- {c} Information booklet for new pupils
- {d} School Rules [listed in each classroom]
- {e} School Diary
- {f} Personal and Social Education Curriculum

Summary

1. We seek to prevent bullying by:
 - • re-enforcing the school aims and ethos in Assemblies, in our teaching strategies and in our general school organisation;
 - • focusing on people's differences and developing an understanding, tolerance and respect for these differences;
 - • raising awareness of our responsibilities towards others;
 - • developing confidence, self-esteem and self respect, as well as respect for others.
 - • Ensuring that every member of our school community is aware of their responsibilities should they encounter any behaviour that could possibly be a case of bullying.
2. We respond to bullying quickly and sensitively by:
 - • always taking allegations seriously;
 - • encouraging pupils to talk and not keep bullying to themselves;
 - • using a variety of strategies to address the issue, e.g. talking to people individually, talking to the bully and the victim together, talking to a group, working with parents;
 - • using the school's disciplinary sanctions where appropriate; this may include excluding pupils from school.

Bullying is not a problem that only affects young people. Adults bully. We aim to develop the necessary understanding and skills to enable our pupils to:

- {a} refrain from bullying and
- {b} know how to respond with confidence should they ever find themselves the victims of bullying at any time in their lives.

Reviewed: January 2007