



Cravenwood Primary Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Anti-Bullying Policy

**Cravenwood Primary Academy, Cravenwood Road, Crumpsall,
Manchester, M8 5AE**

Telephone: 0161 795 3380 Fax: 0161 720 7049

email: info@cravenwoodprimary.org.uk



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Rationale

At Cravenwood Primary Academy we recognise that bullying can occur. When it does, it can be harmful both physically and emotionally for the victim. The purpose of this policy is to enable adults and children in the school to recognise bullying when it takes place and to deal with it effectively.

What is bullying?

Bullying is a **deliberately** hurtful behaviour. It is repeated, often over a period of time. There are a number of types of bullying:

Emotional: excluding from a group, tormenting, ridiculing, humiliating

Physical: hitting, punching, pinching, kicking or taking/damaging someone's belongings

Verbal: name-calling, insulting, spreading rumours, threats, making fun of someone

Racist: racial taunts, gestures, making fun of someone's culture or religion.

Homophobic: homophobic language or gestures, taunting someone for their perceived or actual sexuality

Sexual: unwanted physical contact, sexually abusive or sexist comments

Cyber: all areas of the internet, mobile phone threats, misuse of associated technology/cameras, offensive emails and texts, offensive posts on social media.

What bullying is not:

It is important to understand that bullying is not occasionally falling out with friends, name-calling arguments or when the occasional joke is played on someone. Children do sometimes fall out or say things because they are upset. When problems of this kind arise, it is not classed as bullying. It is an important part of a child's development to learn how to deal with friendship breakdowns, teasing etc. **While we recognise how upsetting these situations can be, it is our duty as educators to support our pupils as they learn how to deal with them and thus develop the social skills to repair relationships.**

It is bullying if it is done repeatedly and on purpose, with the intent to cause hurt. At Cravenwood, we are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for **all** our pupils.

Role of Parents

Parents have an important part to play in our anti-bullying strategy. We ask parents to:

- Look out for unusual behaviour in your child – for example not wanting to attend school, feigning illness, disturbed sleep or seeming low in spirits.
- Always take an active role in your child's education: enquire how their day has gone, who they have spent time with etc.

If you are worried that your child may be a victim of bullying behaviour, inform the school as soon as you can. Your complaint will be taken seriously and appropriate action will follow. **Please do not approach any alleged perpetrator(s), either on or off school premises.**

It may be tempting to advise your child to fight back or to behave in the same way to the perpetrator(s). **In our experience, this rarely works.** Reassure your child that it is not their fault they are being bullied. Reinforce the school policy on bullying and ensure your child is not afraid to ask for help. If you know (or suspect) your child is involved in bullying, please contact school.

Procedures for reporting and responding to bullying incidents

Allegations and incidents of bullying will be taken seriously by all staff and dealt with impartially and promptly. All of those involved will have the opportunity to be heard. Staff will support all children involved whilst the allegations and incidents are investigated and resolved.

The following procedures are to be followed:

- Incidents of alleged bullying need to be reported to the child's class teacher or relevant team leader.
- The class teacher or team leader will investigate the incident fully.
- The problem will be identified and possible solutions suggested
- Appropriate action will be taken to end the bullying behaviour
- Depending on the seriousness of the problem, there will be further consequences.
- Support will be given to help the bully understand and change his/her behaviour.
- Parents of both bully and victim will be kept informed.
- If the bullying continues or in more serious cases of bullying, the perpetrator's parents will be invited into the school for a meeting to discuss the problem.
- All incidents of bullying will be recorded on CPOMs system.
- In repeated or serious cases, the school may impose the following sanctions: lunchtime exclusion, fixed term exclusion or permanent exclusion.

Strategies for the prevention and reduction of bullying

Whole-school initiatives and proactive teaching strategies are used throughout the school to develop a positive learning environment, with the aim of raising awareness and reducing the opportunities for bullying to occur. These include:

- PSHE lessons
- Taking part in national anti-bullying week
- Awareness through anti- bullying assemblies
- Family meetings; Safeguarding Ambassadors
- Worry Leaders
- Our school's Behaviour Policy.

Policy Review Date

	Date	Name of owner/author
Authorised	July 2024	Principal

Policy Reviewed	July 2024	SLT
Next Annual Review Date:	July 2025	SLT