

Beckers Green Primary School

Anti-Bullying Policy

Sep 2026



Approved by governors on:

Review Date: Sep 2028

Statement of Intent

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. 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. This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Behaviour management Policy.

We actively promote values of respect and equality and work to ensure that difference and diversity is celebrated across the whole school community. These values reflect the 2010 Equality Act, the school and British values.

What Is Bullying?

Bullying is a persistent and intentional act that results in pain and distress to the victim. Bullying may involve complicity that falls short of direct participation by, for instance, manipulating a third party to tease or torment someone. Bullying is a form of child on child abuse and can present in different forms:

Bullying can be:

- Physical - such as hitting or physically intimidating someone, or using inappropriate or unwanted physical contact towards someone
- Attacking property – such as damaging, stealing or hiding someone's possessions
- Verbal – such as name calling, spreading rumours about someone, using derogatory or offensive language or threatening someone.
- Psychological – such as deliberately excluding or ignoring people
- Cyber – such as using text, email or other social media to write or say hurtful things about someone or to spread misinformation

Bullying can be based on any of the following things:

- Race
- Religion or belief
- Culture or class
- Gender
- Sexual orientation
- Gender identity
- Special educational needs or disability
- Appearance or health conditions
- Related to home or other personal situation
- Related to another vulnerable group

As stated in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026 – all staff should be aware that child on child abuse can happen and that even if there are no reports in school it does not mean it is not happening. All staff should challenge inappropriate behaviour between peers and not downplay behaviour as banter or having a laugh. This can lead to an unsafe environment and a culture that normalises abuse leading to children accepting it as normal and not coming forward to report it.

Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying?

We have a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying. It may be overt and intimidatory but is often hidden and subtle. 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.

Bullying is among the highest concerns that parents have about their children's safety and well-being at and on the way to and from school. Bullying is also a primary concern of children and young people themselves. Bullying makes the lives of its victims a misery: it undermines their confidence and self-esteem and destroys their sense of security. Bullying impacts on its victims' attendance and attainment at school, marginalises those groups who may be particular targets for bullies and can have a life-long negative impact on some young people's lives. It can be psychologically damaging and, at worst, it has been a factor in pupil suicide.

It is acknowledged that bullies may have complex reasons for their behaviour and may well need help. It should also be recognised that the consequences of being allowed to 'get away with it' can be detrimental to them as well as to their victims.

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, including bullying that is sexual in nature, 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
- begs to be driven to school
- changes their usual routine
- is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
- becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence
- starts stammering
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- feels ill in the morning
- begins to do poorly in school work
- has possessions which are damaged or "go missing"
- has dinner or other monies continually "lost"
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- is bullying other children or siblings
- stops eating

- is frightened to say what's wrong
- is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone
- is nervous & jumpy when a cyber message is received

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

Reporting bullying

Pupils who are being bullied

If a pupil is being bullied they are encouraged not to retaliate but to tell someone they trust about it such as a friend, family member or trusted adult. They are also encouraged to report any bullying incidents in school.

- Report to a teacher
- Tell any other adult in school – such as learning support assistant, pastoral support or midday assistant

Reporting – roles and responsibilities

Staff: All school staff have a duty to report bullying, to be vigilant to the signs of bullying and play an active role in the schools measures to prevent bullying. IF staff are aware of bullying, they should reassure the pupil involved and inform their class teacher and senior staff.

Senior staff: The senior leadership team and the headteacher have an overall responsibility for ensuring that the Anti Bullying Policy is followed by all members of staff and that the school upholds its duty to promote the safety and wellbeing of all young people.

Parents/carers: Parents and carers should look out for potential signs of bullying. Parents and carers should encourage their child not to retaliate and support them to report an incident of bullying to the school either in person, by phone or email.

Responding to bullying:

1. Reassure and support the pupils involved.
2. Staff will record incidents on CPOMS – this easily tracks incidents and adds links to all involved in incidents. Staff can also notify school leaders via CPOMS system. CPOMS will track behaviour incidents and patterns of behaviour can be analysed to support the identification of bullying.
3. If necessary parents will be informed and will be asked to come in for a meeting to discuss the problem – this could be parents of the victim and perpetrator.
4. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly
5. An attempt will be made to help the child(ren) displaying bullying behaviour to change their behaviour in line with the school's Trauma Perceptive Practice
6. If necessary and appropriate, the police will be consulted

Outcomes

1. Bullying policy will be followed - The children displaying bullying behaviour may be asked to genuinely apologise.
2. Consequences of behaviour will be discussed – they may include educational consequences and sanctions.

3. In serious cases and those which are ongoing, suspension or even exclusion will be considered. Cases will be considered on an individual basis.
4. After the incident / incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

The nature of cyber bullying means that it can impact on pupils' wellbeing beyond the school day. Staff, parents and carers, and pupils must be vigilant to bullying outside of school and report and respond according to their responsibilities as outlined in this policy.

Discriminatory incidents – All prejudiced based incidents are taken seriously and recorded and monitored in school. They are reported to governors. This not only ensures all incidents are dealt with accordingly, but also helps to prevent bullying as it enables targeted anti bullying intervention.

Prevention

As a school we will take the following measures to prevent bullying.

- Raise Awareness-whole school, parents, pupils and governors by holding yearly anti-bullying awareness days/weeks
- Assemblies and class work during PSHE to understand what bullying is and how to report and respond to it
- Regular reinforcement of the school behaviour policy and values.
- Class rules to be established and consequences of actions made clear
- Lunch time clubs established
- Use of Play leaders to lead play provision at lunchtimes and support younger children
- High level of playground supervision
- Curriculum work through PSHE (Jigsaw) and assemblies – work on British and school values and UNCRC.
- Displays in school to celebrate diversity and school values of respect and resilience
- Work with individuals and small groups on conflict resolution and anger management
- Opportunities for children (sometimes in same sex groupings) to share any concerns they have about behaviour in school

