

**GREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL
OF LONDON**



ANTI BULLYING POLICY

GREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL OF LONDON

Anti bullying Policy

At the Greek Primary School of London we want all our pupils and staff:

- ✓ to feel happy, safe and included
- ✓ to work in an environment without harassment, intimidation or fear.

For these reasons

- ✓ Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school
- ✓ We will provide support to every pupil or member of staff who has been bullied.

Our Aims

- ✓ To provide a learning environment free from any threat or fear.
- ✓ To reduce and to eradicate wherever possible, instances in which pupils are made to feel frightened, excluded or unhappy.
- ✓ To establish a means of dealing with bullying.
- ✓ To ensure support to pupils who have been bullied.
- ✓ To help pupils who behave inappropriately to co-operate with their peers and members of staff.
- ✓ To ensure that all pupils and staff are aware of the policy and that they fulfil their obligations to it.

Objectives of this Policy

With this policy the Greek Primary School wants

- ✓ To ensure that all teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents have an understanding of what bullying is.
- ✓ To inform all teaching and non-teaching staff what the school policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported.
- ✓ To inform all pupils and parents what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises.
- ✓ To ensure that at the Greek School we take bullying is taken seriously and to support pupils and parents in such cases.
- ✓ To meet any legal obligations which rest with the school.

This policy complies with DCSF guidance 'Safe to learn: embedding anti-bullying work in schools, 2007.'

OUR DEFINITION OF BULLYING

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

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Bullying can be:

- ✓ **Physical:** Pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- ✓ **Verbal:** Name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- ✓ **Emotional:** Being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures)
- ✓ **Cyber:** All areas of internet, such as email & internet chat room misuse
Mobile threats by text messaging & calls.

Some forms of bullying could be:

- ✓ **Racist** racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- ✓ **Sexual** unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive or homophobic comments.
- ✓ Bullying of pupils who have **special educational needs or disabilities.**

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 they should investigate if a child:

- ✓ is frightened of walking to or from school
- ✓ does not want to go on the school / public bus
- ✓ begs to be driven to school
- ✓ changes their usual routine
- ✓ begins to truant
- ✓ 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 which are damaged or " 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
- ✓ gives improbable excuses for any of the above
- ✓ is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone

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These signs and forms of behaviour could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated.

CREATING AN ANTI-BULLYING CLIMATE IN SCHOOL

To prevent bullying from occurring at the Greek Primary School we do the following:

- ✓ We use all the opportunities that the curriculum offers in order to read stories, draw pictures, have discussions and play drama games that underline the values of collaboration, respect, helping each other, and participation in the school's society and in the wider community.
- ✓ The pupils have the opportunity to discuss and give ideas about issues that concern bullying.
- ✓ We ask pupils where and when bullying occurs in school and we will supervise, and try to eliminate any unsafe areas that they report to us.

THE SCHOOL'S STRATEGIES FOR DEALING WITH BULLYING

- ✓ Pupils who have been bullied, or have seen others being bullied, should report this to their class teacher, to the teacher on duty, or the Head teacher.
- ✓ Reports of bullying will be logged by the Head teacher.
- ✓ All reports will be taken seriously and will be followed up by members of the staff.
- ✓ Members of staff who receive reports that a pupil has been bullied will take action as recommended in this policy and should report this to all staff.

The teacher who will be knowledgeable of a bullying incident should

- ✓ Provide support to the pupil/s who are bullied.
- ✓ Reassure the pupil/s that they do not deserve to be bullied and it is not their fault.
- ✓ Assure the pupil/s that it was right to report the incident.
- ✓ Try to ascertain the extent of the problem.
- ✓ Engage the pupil/s in making choices about how the matter may be resolved.
- ✓ Try to ensure that the pupil/s feel safe.
- ✓ Ask the pupil/s to report immediately any further incidents to us.
- ✓ Affirm that bullying can be stopped and that our school will persist with intervention until it does.

Then the teacher will interview the pupil (or pupils) involved in bullying separately and will:

- ✓ Listen to their version of events.
- ✓ Talk to anyone else who may have witnessed the bullying.
- ✓ Reinforce the message that bullying is not acceptable, and that we expect bullying to stop.
- ✓ Seek a commitment to this end.
- ✓ Affirm that it is right for pupils to let us know when they are being bullied.

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- ✓ Adopt a joint problem solving approach where this is appropriate.
- ✓ Advice pupils responsible for bullying that we will be checking to ensure that bullying stops.
- ✓ When bullying occurs, we will contact the parents of the pupils involved at an early stage.
- ✓ We will keep records of incidents that we become aware of and how we responded to them.
- ✓ We will follow up after incidents to check that the bullying has not started again. We will do this within two weeks, and again within the following half term.

If the incident is serious the child/dren who behave like bully/ies.

- ✓ Will be withdrawn at break time for a certain period of time.
- ✓ Will not participate in school events and trips that are not an essential part of the curriculum.
- ✓ Social services may need to be contacted in extreme situations.

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

Everyone within the Greek Primary School is expected to:

- ✓ Act in a respectful and supportive way towards one another.
- ✓ Support and to promote with their behaviour the objectives of this policy.

Pupils are expected to:

- ✓ Report all incidents of bullying.
- ✓ Report incidents that victims may be afraid to report.
- ✓ Support each other and to seek help to ensure that everyone feels happy, safe, and nobody feels excluded or afraid in school.

Parents are expected to:

- ✓ Support our anti-bullying policy and procedures.
- ✓ Discuss with their child's teacher any concerns that their child may be experiencing bullying or involved in some other way.
- ✓ Help to establish an anti-bullying culture outside of school.

BULLYING OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL PREMISES

- ✓ Schools are not responsible for bullying that occurs off the premises. However, we know that bullying can occur outside the school gates and on journeys to and from school. We will inform our pupils how to avoid or handle bullying outside of school. We will also report serious incidents to the police.

CONCERNS, COMPLAINTS ... AND COMPLIMENTS

- ✓ We recognise that there may be times when parents feel that we have not dealt well with an incident of bullying – and we would ask that this be brought to the Head teacher’s notice. If the Head teacher cannot resolve these concerns informally, parents can raise their concerns more formally through the school’s Complaints Procedure. We would also be pleased to receive compliments – feedback from parents when things have gone well.

EVALUATING OUR POLICY

- ✓ We will evaluate our anti-bullying policy using the following measures:
- ✓ The numbers of incidents that are reported to staff over a given period.
- ✓ Listen to pupils’ perceptions of bullying in school through structured discussions in class.
- ✓ From the comments received from every class council.
- ✓ From the comments made by visitors and other people connected with the school.

OWNERSHIP OF THIS POLICY

- ✓ This policy applies to all staff and to all pupils, whether temporarily or permanently on the school roll.
- ✓ The Head teacher is responsible for introducing and implementing this policy. However all staff, all pupils and their parents have an active part to play in the development and maintenance of the policy, and in its success.
- ✓ The teachers committee at the end of each school year will formally review this policy annually based on the experiences all members of the school community had during the school year.

This Policy was updated on the 15 of March 2018.