



Respect, Responsibility, Resilience

What is our aim?

At Abingdon Primary School we are a family. We are committed to ensuring all children feel safe and enjoy coming to school. To achieve this we will distribute our Anti-Bullying policy to all parents and children, and all members of staff; we will display copies of our policy around the school and we will hold regular assemblies and lessons in classrooms in order to reinforce our anti-bullying message. We will participate in national initiatives, such as Anti Bullying Week (November) and we will review (and if required, revise) this policy regularly.

This policy has been written with the children. You will find in each section answers, comments and suggestions given by the children. This is their policy on anti-bullying.

As this policy is for the children, due to their age, we feel that children in reception and year 1 will talk about friends and making and maintaining positive friendships. We feel that they should not be introduced to the words bully and bullying until year 2.

The **key** aim is to ensure that every child accesses the following rights from the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)**

- ✚ Everyone under the age of 18 has all the rights in the Convention (Article 1)
- ✚ The convention applies to everyone: whatever their race, religion, or abilities, whatever they think or say, whatever type of family they come from (Article 2)
- ✚ Every child has the right to have a say in all matters affecting them, and to have their views taken seriously (Article 12)
- ✚ Every child has the right to think and believe what they want and to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights (Article 14)
- ✚ Every child has the right to meet with other children and to join groups and organisations, as long as this does not stop other people from enjoying their rights (Article 15)
- ✚ If a child is a refugee or is seeking refuge, they must have the same rights as any other child (Article 22)
- ✚ A child with a disability has the right to live a full and decent life with dignity and independence, and to play an active part in the community (Article 23)
- ✚ Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment (Article 29)
- ✚ Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, regardless of whether these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live (Article 30)
- ✚ Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities (Article 31)

How do we see our school?

Be a buddy not a bully!

Our children were asked how they see our school. The over-whelming response was 'We are a FAMILY'.

Abingdon is

- ✚ A home away from home
- ✚ Somewhere we can enjoy our lessons
- ✚ Safe, friendly, caring
- ✚ A place where you can tell the adults your worries or if you are upset
- ✚ Somewhere bullying is NOT allowed

Everyone has a duty to tell. If a targeted person does not want to tell an adult or an anti-bullying ambassador, any pupils witnessing have a duty to tell someone. Bullies need to know that they are not going to get away with it.

Abingdon will not tolerate any physical contact and consequences will be given to any child who does not stick to this.

For the policy to be effective, it needs children to be aware that they must not retaliate e.g. hit back. This action will lead to all children involved receiving a consequence.

How we define bullying...

- ✚ Teasing someone because of their looks, race, religion, disability, how they speak or because they are shy.
- ✚ Making others feel scared or sad coming to school because of repetitive, upsetting behaviour both emotional or physical
- ✚ Using threatening language
- ✚ Someone who tries to get you to do things you don't want to do
- ✚ Tormenting others
- ✚ Purposely ignoring/leaving out someone all the time
- ✚ Damaging or stealing people's property repeatedly

Is mean and unpleasant but not bullying...

- ✚ Retaliation for a perceived wrong
- ✚ Playing a game that gets out of hand
- ✚ Accusing someone of doing something
- ✚ Someone laughing at you/taking a joke too far
- ✚ Not sharing with others
- ✚ Insulting others interests
- ✚ Spreading rumours
- ✚ Not being considerate of others feeling before speaking
- ✚ Telling somebody else a secret that someone has trusted you with (Remember, sometimes 'secrets' need to be told to an adult in the school if it is causing the person to be hurt or unhappy.)

What we think is not bullying...

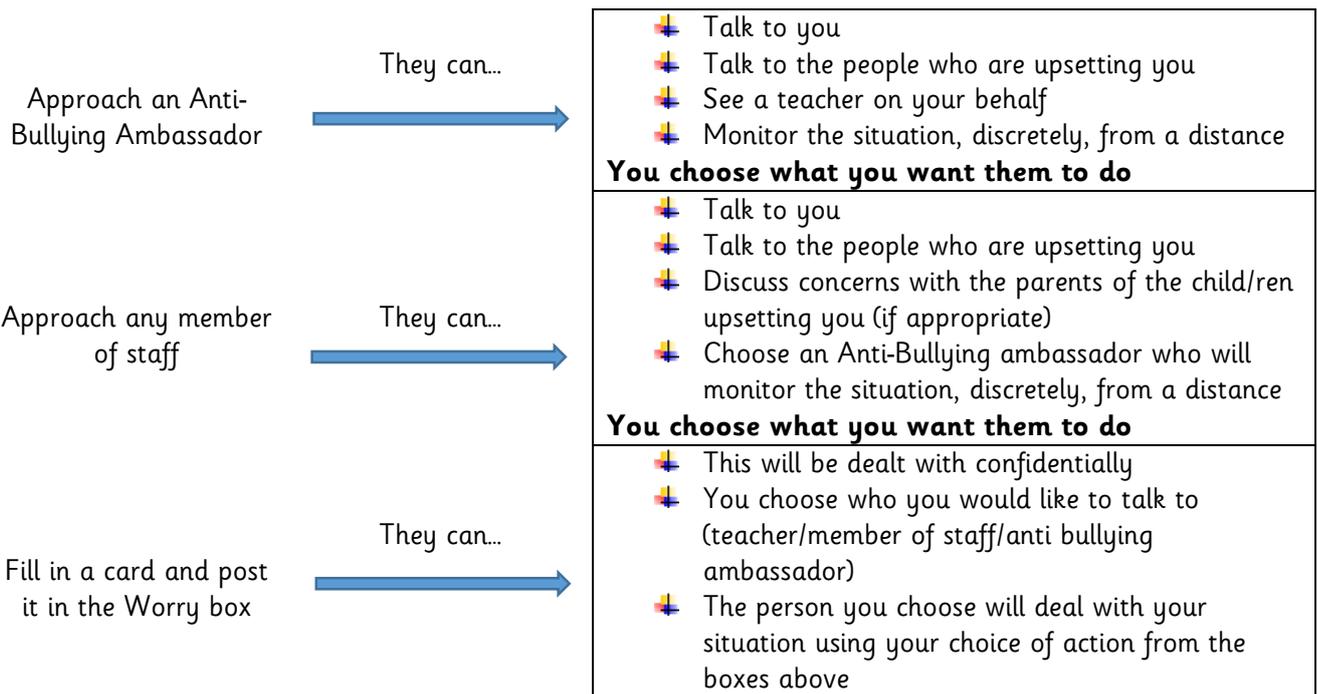
The responses given by the children for this question were easy to divide into two groups. The responses from the children in the younger years were more positive behaviours. Whereas the responses from the older children were more minor negative behaviours.

- + Being kind
- + Helping someone
- + Playing games
- + Playing with friends
- + Sharing
- + Complimenting each other
- + Showing respect
- + Smiling

- + Scaring someone
- + Calling someone a nickname
- + Playing a practical joke
- + Falling out
- + Hurting someone by accident
- + Lying
- + Messing around with your friend

In cases of ‘one off’ incidents, which are deemed harmful to the health and wellbeing of other children, the class teacher will give age-appropriate sanctions from the consequence jar. The sanctions will depend on the nature of the incident and can include withdrawal from the playground or special sanction activities. These incidents will be logged on the school monitoring system CPOMS.

What are your choices if you feel you are being bullied?



When bullying behaviour has been identified

- ✚ After monitoring and where bullying behaviour has been proven, the parents of the child causing harm will be invited in to discuss the situation. We will work in partnership in order to address the behaviour and resolve the conflict.
- ✚ The school will discuss a range of possible strategies including restorative approaches, current strategies from anti-bullying associations and advice from the Department of Education in order to address the unwanted behaviour. The child will be allocated an Anti-Bullying ambassador as a buddy.
- ✚ At this stage, if the strategies have been implemented and the bullying behaviour continues, the children will have various act of 'community service' as a consequence. This means they will have to complete a range of jobs around school during playtimes and/or lunchtimes, while supervised by their class teacher.
- ✚ In the event of the behaviour continuing, the Behaviour Policy will be referred to for further action.
- ✚ These incidents will be logged on the school monitoring system CPOMS.

The Abingdon anti- bullying contract

All children will be asked to either agree to or sign a contract. In reception and key stage 1 class teachers will have a discussion with the children and a class contract will be written and agreed to. In key stage 2 children they will use this policy to help write a contract, which they will agree to and sign.

What can parents and carers do?

We would like you to encourage your child/ren to make sure they are telling someone- an Anti-bullying Ambassador or a trusted adult in school- we cannot help if we do not know something is happening. We also urge parents and carers to remember that there is always two sides to any story. If a situation has occurred, please speak with the class teacher in the first instance.

The smile team



At Abingdon, we realise that sometimes all some children need is a smile or friendly face. We have a designated team of 'smilers' to help with this. Their main job is to make children (and staff!) smile. So if you are in need, look for the smiley face badge!

We at Abingdon want all children to feel a part of the Abingdon Family. We want them to enjoy learning and playing and to feel safe at all times.