

Anti-bullying policy

Akrotiri Primary School



Akrotiri School

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1. Aims:

The aim of the anti-bullying policy is to ensure that pupils learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied. Bullying is anti-social behaviour and affects everyone; it is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Only when all issues of bullying are addressed will pupils be able to fully benefit from the opportunities available at our school.

2. Statutory duty of schools

Headteachers have a legal duty under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 to draw up procedures to prevent bullying among pupils and to bring these procedures to the attention of staff, parents and pupils.

3. Objectives of the policy

- a) All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents should understand what bullying is;
- b) All teaching and non-teaching staff should know what the school policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported;
- c) All pupils and parents should know what they should do if bullying arises;
- d) As a school we take bullying seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported;
- e) Bullying will not be tolerated.

4. Definition of bullying

- a) Bullying is behaviour which deliberately makes another person feel uncomfortable, distressed or threatened;
- b) Bullying is repeated over time;
- c) Bullying makes those being bullied feel powerless to defend themselves.

'Every Child Matters' because:

- a) Everyone has the right to feel welcome, secure and happy;
- b) We should treat everyone with consideration.

5. Types of bullying

- a) Emotional - being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting, threatening behaviour;
- b) Verbal - name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing;
- c) Physical - pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence;
- d) Extortion demanding money/goods with threats;
- e) Cyber - all areas of internet, email and internet chatroom misuse. Mobile threats by text messaging and calls. Misuse of associated technology ie: camera and video facilities including those on mobile phones;
- f) Racist - racial taunts, graffiti, gestures;
- g) Sexual - unwanted physical contact, sexually abusive comments;
- h) Homophobic - because of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality.

6. Signs and symptoms of bullying

A person may indicate by signs or behaviours that they are being bullied. Everyone should be aware of these possible signs and should investigate if the person:

- a) Is frightened of walking to or from school or changes route;

- b) Begs to be driven to school;
- c) Changes their usual routine;
- d) Is unwilling to go to school (school phobic);
- e) Begins to truant;
- f) Becomes withdrawn, anxious or lacking in confidence;
- g) Becomes aggressive, abusive, disruptive or unreasonable;
- h) Starts stammering;
- i) Threatens or attempts suicide;
- j) Threatens or attempts self-harm;
- k) Threatens or attempts to run away;
- l) Cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares;
- m) Feels ill in the morning;
- n) Learning is affected;
- o) Comes home with clothes torn, property damaged or 'missing';
- p) Asks for money or starts stealing money;
- q) Has unexplained cuts or bruises;
- r) Comes home 'starving';
- s) Starts bullying others, becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable;
- t) Shows changes in eating habits;
- u) Is frightened to say what is wrong;
- v) Is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone;
- w) Is nervous or jumpy when a cyber message is received;
- x) Give improbable excuses for their behaviour;

7. Keeping children safe at Akrotiri Primary School

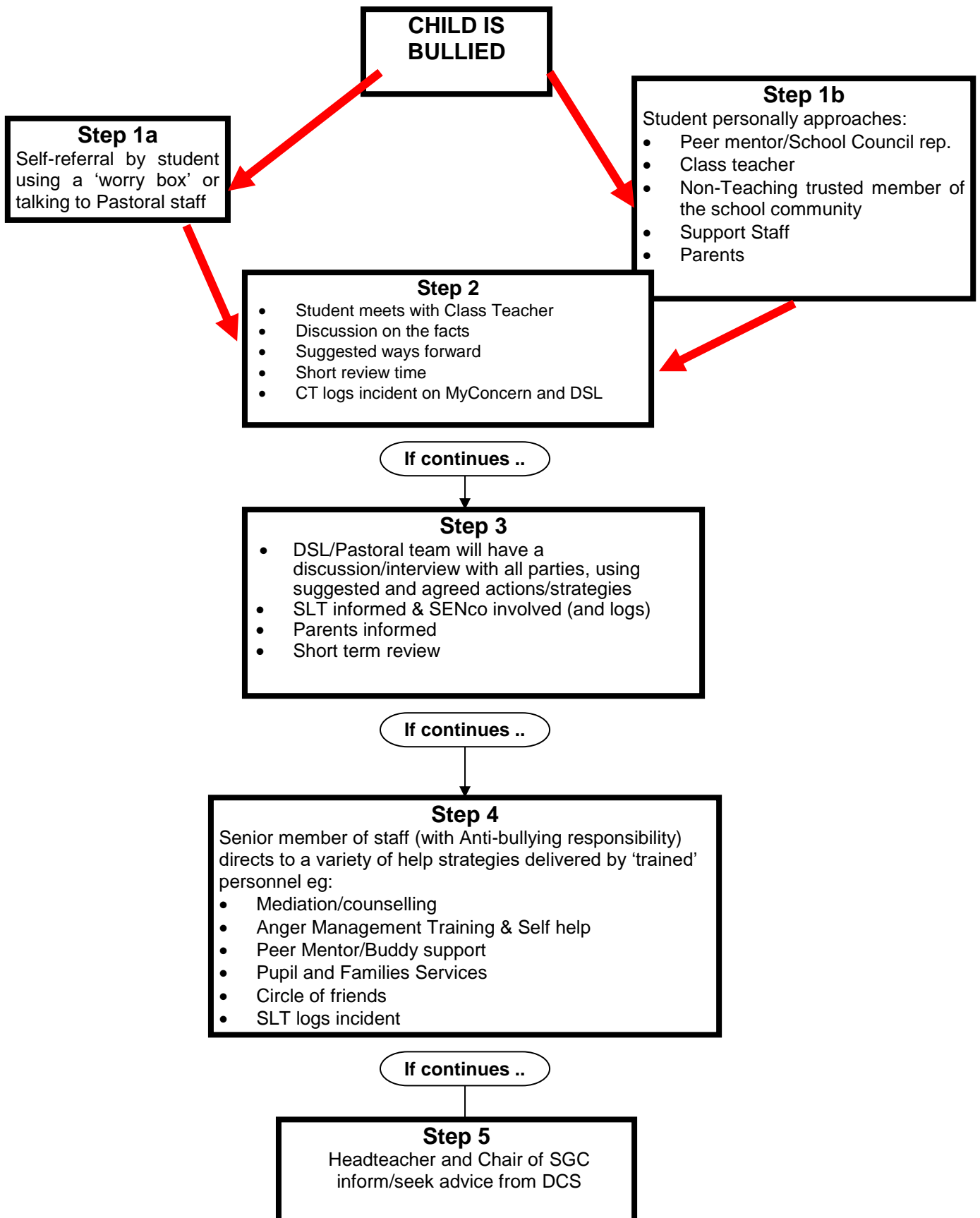
Akrotiri School fosters a clear understanding that bullying, in any form, is not acceptable. This is done by:

- a) Ongoing development of an effective anti-bullying policy and practice;
- b) Regular praise for positive, supportive and respectful behaviour;
- c) A robust PSHE curriculum, taught weekly, including circle time;
- d) Any incidents treated seriously and dealt with immediately;
- e) A clear, child-friendly behaviour policy that sets out the consequences of bullying;
- f) A designated week to develop children's understanding of bullying behaviour;
- g) A Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) who monitors bullying across the school.

In addition, all staff are required to read and follow guidance within the Keeping children safe in education document, found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2>.

Annex A - RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES IN SCHOOL FOR REPORTING BULLYING

PATHWAYS OF HELP



Support Agencies

Anti-bullying Alliance - the alliance brings together over 60 organisations into one network with the aim of reducing bullying. Their website has a parent section with links to recommended organisations who can help with bullying issues

www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Kidscape

www.kidscape.org.uk

02077303300

Childline - advice and stories from children who have survived bullying

Bullying on line

www.bullying.co.uk

Parentline Plus - advice and links for parents www.parentlineplus.org.uk

08088002222

Useful sources of information

Cyberbullying.org - one of the first websites set up in this area, for young people, providing advice around preventing and taking action against cyber bullying. A Canadian based site

www.cyberbullying.org

Think U know - the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP), has produced a set of resources around internet safety for secondary schools www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Know IT All for Parents - a range of resources for primary and secondary schools by Childnet International. Has a sample family agreement www.childnet-int.org/kia/parents