



Freeland Pre-school

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Freeland Pre-school is a Registered Charity [No: 1015592]

Anti-bullying Policy

Statement of Intent

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our children so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our Pre-School. If bullying does occur, all children should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively.

What Is Bullying?

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person.

Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

A child who is bullying has reached a stage of cognitive development where he or she is able to plan to carry out a premeditated intent to cause distress to another.

Bullying can be:

- Emotional - being unfriendly, not letting a child join in the group
- Physical - pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Racist - racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Religion – discriminatory remarks relating to your beliefs and customs
- Sexual - unwanted physical contact
- Verbal - name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- Cyber - all areas of internet, such as email & internet chat room misuse
mobile threats by text messaging

Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying?

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect. Children who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving. The Pre-School has a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

Objectives of this Policy

- All committee, staff, children and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- All committee and staff should know what the Pre-School policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported.
- All children and parents should know what the Pre-School policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises.
- As a Pre-School we take bullying seriously. Children and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Bullying will not be tolerated.
- We do not label children who bully as “bullies”.

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 unwilling to go to Pre-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- Becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence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
- 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
- Has possessions that are damaged or goes missing
- Starts bullying others
- Comes home with clothes torn or damaged
- These signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated

Procedures

- Report bullying incidents to staff

- In cases of bullying, the incidents will be recorded by staff
- In serious cases parents should be informed and will be asked to attend a meeting to discuss the problem
- The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly
- An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour
- If necessary police may be informed

Outcomes

- The bully (bullies) may be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences may take place.
- In serious cases, suspension or even exclusion will be considered
- If possible, the children will be reconciled
- After the incident / incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

Prevention

We will use methods for helping children to prevent bullying. As and when appropriate, these may include:

- Our Golden Rules
- Our behaviour policy and procedure
- Our prevent policy
- Promotion of British values throughout the setting and in line with our British values policy
- The use of books, puppets and role play to help prevent bullying