




## Anti-Bullying Policy

Version:	5
Policy Date:	March 2026
Review Due:	March 2028
Signed:	

## **Rationale**

All staff at Ropley CofE Primary School are committed to the belief that every child at the school has a right to feel safe, happy and secure. We believe that children should never experience abuse of any kind.

### **The purpose of this policy is:**

- To prevent bullying from happening between children at Ropley CofE Primary School
- To make sure bullying is stopped as soon as possible if it does happen and that those involved receive the support they need
- To provide information to all staff, volunteers, children and their families about what we should all do to prevent and deal with bullying.

### **We recognise that:**

- Bullying causes distress and affects a person's health and development
- In some instances, bullying can cause significant harm
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender, gender orientation, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- Everyone has a role to play in preventing all forms of bullying (including online) and putting a stop to bullying.

### **What is bullying?**

- It is the persistent, wilful, conscious desire to hurt, threaten or frighten another person.
- Bullying can be physical or verbal.
- Name calling, teasing and taunting are emotionally bruising and can include both racial and sexual harassment.
- Other forms of bullying may include making rude gestures, intimidation, extortion or cyber bullying.

### **We will seek to prevent bullying by:**

1. Consistently following our Behaviour Policy that sets out how everyone at Ropley CE Primary School is expected to behave, in face-to-face contact and online.
2. Holding regular discussions with staff about our behaviour expectations and bullying.
3. Ensuring pupils view bullying as unacceptable so bullying is less likely to occur.
4. By providing opportunities for group discussion and role-play (e.g. drama, circle time, R.E. or P.S.H.E.) where issues of bullying can be explored, coping strategies discussed and opportunities given to bullies to see things from a victim's perspective.
5. By providing class activities designed to raise self-esteem and improve the social skills of victims and by giving support to counter feelings of inferiority and guilt which may arise.
6. By helping children to see how they can manage their feelings in ways which are not confrontational, threatening or competitive.
7. By ensuring that all adults are made aware of children's needs and are given clear guidelines for behaviour management.
8. By providing activities and equipment for playtimes so play areas meet the play and recreational needs of children.
9. By encouraging children and parents to speak out and report incidents of bullying and by treating seriously any reports of bullying.
10. By making clear that racist or sexist language from anyone is not acceptable.
11. By advising parents how they might help their child - whether bully or victim.
12. By staff being alert to signs of distress in children and recording all incidents.

13. Pupils are encouraged to tell anybody they trust if they are being bullied, and if the bullying continues, they must keep on letting people know.
14. Providing support and training for all staff and volunteers on dealing with all forms of bullying, including racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic and sexual bullying.

### **Responding to bullying**

- Each incident of bullying will be considered separately and in line with the school's Behaviour Policy.
- Incidents will be dealt with according to the nature of the bullying, the severity, the frequency, the motivation and the numbers involved.
- Parents of pupils involved will be informed about the incident(s) and the school will work with them to resolve the situation.
- The unacceptable nature of the behaviour and the consequences of any repetition will be made clear to the bully and to their parents.

### **The role of governors**

The governing body supports the headteacher in all attempts to eliminate bullying from our school. The governing body will not condone any bullying at all in our school, and any incidents of bullying that do occur will be taken very seriously, and dealt with appropriately.

The governing body monitors incidents of bullying that do occur, and reviews the effectiveness of this policy regularly. The governors require the headteacher to keep accurate records of all incidents of bullying, and to report to the governors on request about the effectiveness of school anti-bullying strategies.