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<i>Level of Approval</i>	SLT



Claremont Fan Court School

Policy: Anti-Bullying

This should be read in conjunction with the School's Behaviour Policy and Anti-Bullying procedure

This policy applies to all areas of the school, including Early Years Foundation Stage.

1. Introduction

Claremont Fan Court School is committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for everyone so we can all work in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. This policy is in line with national DCSF guidance. This policy is both a framework for current requirements and procedures and for future aspirations.

2. Definition

Bullying is persistent, shame-inducing, damaging, intentional negative behaviour where there is an imbalance of power. This is opposed to normal behaviour in growing children. True bullying is damaging for both the victim and the perpetrator and is often hidden due to the shame of the victim and fear of the witnesses.

Bullying includes:

- Name-calling
- Taunting
- Mocking
- Making offensive or humiliating comments
- Gossiping
- Spreading hurtful and untruthful rumours
- Laughing or sniggering at someone in an unkind way
- Taking or deliberately damaging a person's belongings including laptops
- Threats and extortion
- Physical violence
- Using body language inappropriately e.g. giving "dirty" looks
- Deliberately invading someone's personal space
- Cyber bullying, i.e. inappropriate text messaging, emailing and use of social network sites e.g. Facebook, Bebo, Myspace, Youtube, MS Messaging, etc.

- Sending or displaying offensive or degrading images by telephone or via the internet or email
- Producing offensive graffiti or writing unkind notes about someone
- Excluding people from groups
- Racist, religious, cultural, sexual, homophobic or disability-related language and comments

It is also bullying if someone feels justifiably hurt because of things said about their ethnic, cultural or economic background, religious faith, gender, sexuality (homophobic), disability, special educational need, appearance or issues in their family.

Bullying can cause psychological damage and even suicide. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance that the culture at Claremont Fan Court School is one where all members of the community work to prevent bullying.

3. Statement of aims and objectives

Bullying is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Any member of the Claremont Fan Court community, pupil, employee or volunteer, has the right to learn and work without fear of being bullied. Through this policy, Claremont Fan Court School aims to prevent bullying from occurring. Its objectives are to ensure that all members of the school community:

- feel safe from bullying
- recognise bullying behaviour
- understand and support the school's stance against bullying
- know how to report incidents of bullying
- contribute to informing and, where possible, evaluating the policy