



Barnsbury Primary School and Nursery

Anti Bullying POLICY

Governor responsibility:	Full Governing Body
Reviewed by:	PSHE Leader
Review period:	Annually
Reviewed:	Autumn 2025
Next Review:	Autumn 2026

Purpose of the Policy

At Barnsbury Primary School and Nursery, we are committed to providing a **safe, caring and inclusive environment** where all children can learn and thrive. This policy sets out how we **prevent, identify and respond to bullying** and how we support pupils, families and staff when concerns arise.

Bullying of any kind is **not tolerated**, whether it involves children or adults, and whether it takes place in school, online, or in connection with school activities.

Our School Ethos and Values

We aim to foster an environment where:

- All children feel **safe, respected and valued**
- Positive relationships are built on **kindness, fairness and trust**
- Differences are celebrated and discrimination is challenged

Our approach to behaviour and anti-bullying is grounded in **Values Education**, which underpins all aspects of school life. A different value is explored each half term through:

- Assemblies
- Class reflection
- PSHE lessons

Everyone within our school community, pupils, staff, governors and parents, shares responsibility for maintaining high standards of behaviour and mutual respect.

What We Do to Prevent Bullying

We aim to prevent bullying by:

- Creating a welcoming and inclusive environment
- Teaching children appropriate social and emotional skills
- Encouraging pupil voice and participation
- Praising positive behaviour and good choices
- Promoting respectful relationships across the school
- Providing children with the language and strategies to solve problems calmly
- Encouraging children to take responsibility for their actions
- Modelling positive behaviour through all adult interactions
- Working in partnership with parents and carers

- Teaching online safety and responsible use of technology
- Holding an annual **Anti-Bullying Week**

What Is Bullying?

Bullying is **deliberate behaviour** that is intended to hurt, upset or humiliate someone. It often involves:

- A **power imbalance**
- Repeated behaviour over time (although a single serious incident can also be bullying)

Bullying is different from everyday friendship issues or disagreements, which are usually resolved quickly and fairly.

Bullying can be:

- **Physical** – hitting, kicking, pushing
- **Emotional** – name-calling, threats, humiliation
- **Social** – excluding others, spreading rumours
- **Sexualised** – unwanted comments or behaviour
- **Online (Cyberbullying)** – messages, images or posts sent digitally

It may relate to:

- Appearance
- Race, religion or belief
- Ethnicity, nationality or culture
- Disability or Special Educational Needs (SEND)
- Physical or mental health
- Family circumstances, including young carers or children in care

There is **no hierarchy of bullying** — all forms are treated seriously.

Bullying and Safeguarding

Bullying may involve **child-on-child abuse**. All bullying concerns are treated as potential safeguarding issues and will be shared with the **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)** where appropriate.

Reporting Bullying

For Children

Children are encouraged to speak to:

- Their class teacher
- Another trusted adult
- A friend who can help them talk to an adult
- Use school systems such as the **Worry Monsters**.

For Parents and Carers

Parents are encouraged to contact the school if they have concerns. We ask that parents inform us of:

- Concerns raised by their child
- Incidents outside school that may affect relationships in school

The school operates an **open-door approach** and aims to work in partnership with families.

How We Respond to Bullying

If bullying is suspected or reported, the school will:

1. Ensure the child who has been bullied is safe and supported
2. Take the concern seriously and act promptly
3. Investigate by speaking to all parties involved, including bystanders
4. Keep written records of actions taken
5. Inform parents/carers as appropriate
6. Apply suitable sanctions and support in line with the Behaviour Policy
7. Monitor the situation to prevent recurrence

All bullying incidents are recorded securely on **CPOMS**.

Supporting Children

Support may include:

- Identifying a trusted adult
- Buddy or peer support systems
- Support during playtimes
- Social skills or therapeutic support through PSHE or targeted interventions

Preventing Bullying Through Education

We promote understanding and respect by:

- Discussing differences openly and positively
- Challenging inappropriate language or “banter”
- Supporting children with SEND who may be more vulnerable
- Teaching responsible use of technology and online safety
- Working with external agencies where needed

Roles and Responsibilities

Headteacher

- Overall responsibility for the policy and its implementation
- Liaison with parents, governors and external agencies

Anti-Bullying Lead (PSHE Leader)

- Policy development and review
- Managing bullying incidents
- Staff training and guidance
- Monitoring and evaluation

Governing Body

- Oversight of policy and practice
- Named governor responsible for behaviour and anti-bullying

Linked Policies

- Safeguarding Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- PSHE Policy
- Equality and Inclusion Policy
- Teaching and Learning Policy

Pupil Voice

The School Council helps develop:

- Child-friendly definitions of bullying
- Advice and guidance for pupils
- School initiatives promoting kindness and respect

Useful Support Organisations

Parents and pupils may find the following helpful:

- Anti-Bullying Alliance
- Childline
- NSPCC
- Kidscape
- Young Minds
- UK Safer Internet Centre