



# Ark Priors Primary Academy

## **Anti-bullying Policy 2022-23**

*Make Every Day Count*

*To achieve our ambitious vision, it is of utmost importance that our community is one in which all feel safe both emotionally and physically. This policy outlines how this will be achieved.*

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## **1. Statement of Intent**

At Ark Priory Primary Academy we have a policy of prevention. Preventing bullying makes it easier to respond to incidents when they occur. It also enables us to create an ethos in which the whole academy community is clear that bullying is completely unacceptable and will not be tolerated. This policy should be used in conjunction with the academy school's Behaviour Policy.

## **2. Review of this Policy**

2.1 In line with all policies, this policy will be reviewed after 2 years – deadline: August 2021. It may also be reviewed and amended, in consultation with all stakeholders, in the light of events or experience. The Stakeholders of this policy are children, staff, parents and carers, Ark trustees and Ark Schools management board.

2.2 Data from the monitoring and recording of incidents (including 'nil' returns) will also inform policy review and will be seen by the governing body at governing body meetings.

## **3. Aims of this Policy**

3.1 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 the Academy.

3.2 To assist in creating an ethos in which attending Ark Priory Primary Academy is a positive experience for all members of our community.

3.3 To make it clear that all forms of bullying are unacceptable at Ark Priory Primary Academy. To enable everyone to feel safe while at Ark Priory Primary Academy and encourage pupils to report incidents of bullying.

3.4 To deal with each incident of bullying effectively, taking into consideration the needs of all parties and of our community, and, as a result, to reduce the incidents of bullying.

3.5 To support and protect victims of bullying and ensure they are listened to.

3.6 To help and support children displaying bullying behaviour to change their attitudes and understand why it needs to change.

3.7 To liaise with parents/carers and other appropriate members of the Academy community.

3.8 To ensure all members of our community feel responsible for helping to reduce bullying.

#### 4. Objectives of the Policy

4.1 Evidence that our whole community has ownership of the academy's Anti-Bullying Policy.

4.2 To maintain and develop effective listening systems for children and staff within Ark Priory Primary Academy.

4.3 To involve all staff in dealing with incidents of bullying effectively and promptly.

4.4 To equip all staff with the skills and information necessary to deal with incidents of bullying.

4.5 To involve the wider academy community (e.g. midday supervisors, part-time staff/volunteers) in dealing effectively with, and if necessary referring, bullying incidents.

4.6 To communicate with parents/carers and the wider academy community effectively on the subject of bullying.

4.7 To acknowledge the key role of every staff member in dealing with incidents of bullying.

4.8 To ensure that all incidents of bullying are recorded and appropriate use is made of the information, where appropriate sharing it with relevant organisations.

4.9 To promote emotional health and wellbeing across the whole academy/setting and for all members of our community to role-model this in all situations.

#### 5. Definition of Bullying

5.1 Bullying is defined as deliberately hurtful behaviour, repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. Bullying can be:

- a) **Emotional:** being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures).
- b) **Physical:** pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence.
- c) **Racist:** racial taunts, graffiti, gestures.
- d) **Sexual:** unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments.
- e) **Homophobic:** because of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality.
- f) **Verbal:** name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing.
- g) **Cyber:** all areas of internet, such as email and internet chat room misuse, mobile threats by text messaging and calls, misuse of associated technology, i.e. camera & video facilities.

5.2 It is important to understand that bullying is not odd occasion falling out with friends, name calling, arguments or when the occasional 'joke' is played on someone. Children do sometimes fall out or say things because they are upset. When occasional problems of this kind arise it is not classed as bullying. It is an important part of a child's development to learn how to deal with

friendship breakdowns, the odd name calling or childish prank. We all have to learn how to deal with these situations and develop social skills to repair relationships.

5.3 Pupils who are being bullied may show changes in behaviour, such as becoming shy and nervous, feigning illness, taking unusual absences or clinging to adults. There may be evidence of changes in work patterns, lacking concentration or truanting from the Academy. These behaviours, however, do not in and of themselves mean that bullying is taking place. Likewise, bullying may occur without these behaviours appearing. Pupils must be encouraged to report bullying at the Academy. The Academy staff must be alert to the signs of bullying and act promptly and firmly against it in accordance with the Academy policy.

## 6. Practice and Procedures

6.1 Statutory duty of academies The Headteacher has 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/carers and Pupils. Each Ark Academy will develop bespoke procedures for the reporting dealing with and the prevention of bullying.

6.2 What we do to prevent bullying:

6.3 Everyone involved in the life of the Academy must take responsibility for promoting a common antibullying approach. We aim to:

- a) Be supportive of each other.
- b) Provide positive role models.
- c) Convey a clear understanding that we disapprove of unacceptable behaviour.
- d) Be clear that we all follow the rules and shared values of Ark Priory Primary Academy.
- e) Be fully involved in the development of the Anti-Bullying Policy and support anti-bullying practice.
- f) Support each other in the implementation of this policy.

6.2.2 All members of the academy community are expected to report incidents of bullying. All Staff have a vital role to play as they are at the forefront of behaviour management and supporting children's sense of wellbeing. They have the closest knowledge of the children in their care, and should build up a relationship involving mutual support, trust and respect.

6.2.3 All Ark Priory Primary Academy Staff will:

- a) Provide children with a framework of behaviour including rules which support the whole academy policy.
- b) Emphasise and behave in a respectful and caring manner to children and colleagues, to set a good tone and help create a positive atmosphere.
- c) Raise awareness of bullying through activities, stories, role-play, discussion, peer support, academy council, PSHE etc.
- d) Through the Headteacher/senior staff member, keep the governing body informed.
- e) Provide a key staff member who is responsible for the monitoring of the policy.

## 6.3 Implementation

Ark Priory Primary Academy procedures when dealing with incidents:

- a) If bullying is suspected or reported, the incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff who has been approached.

- b) b If it is likely that bullying may be occurring or has occurred, a clear account of the incident will be recorded and given to the Headteacher or his/her named representative.
- c) The headteacher or named representative will interview all concerned and will record the incident.
- d) The class teacher will be kept informed and if it persists he/she will advise the appropriate staff members . e Parents/carers will be kept informed. f Sanctions will be used as appropriate and in consultation with all parties concerned.

## 6.4 Pupils

6.4.1 Pupils who have been bullied will be supported by teachers:

- a) Offering an immediate opportunity to discuss the experience with a member of staff of their choice.
- b) Reassuring the student.
- c) Offering continuous support.
- d) Restoring self-esteem and confidence.

6.4.2 Pupils who have bullied will be helped by:

- a) Discussing what happened.
- b) Discovering why the student guilty of bullying became involved.
- c) Establishing the wrong doing and need to change, as well as suggesting strategies to assist change.
- d) Informing parents/carers to help change the attitude of the student.

6.4.3 The following disciplinary steps can be taken:

- a) Explanation why the inappropriate behaviour is unacceptable.
- b) Reparation of damaged relationships.
- c) Time away from an activity.
- d) Meeting with staff, parent and child.
- e) Missing another activity.
- f) Time out from the classroom.
- g) Pastoral support plan.
- h) Official warnings to cease offending.
- i) Detention.
- j) Exclusion from certain areas of the academy premises.
- k) Minor fixed-term exclusion.
- l) Major fixed-term exclusion.
- m) Permanent exclusion.

6.4.4 Within the curriculum the Academy will raise the awareness of the nature of bullying through inclusion in PSHE, registration time, assemblies and subject areas, as appropriate, in an attempt to eradicate such behaviour.

## 6.5 Support

6.5.1 At Ark Priory Primary Academy, we will continue to support this policy in the following ways:

- a) We continue to address staff training needs, by organising regular training to tackle all forms of bullying, through behaviour management training, homophobia and e-safety training.
- b) By providing information and support for pupils, by making age-appropriate information about services and support available to all pupils. We can refer pupils to services including Child Line for additional support.
- c) We incorporate addressing bullying in curriculum planning, by trying to include teaching about homophobia as well as other forms of discrimination, prejudice and stereotyping in an age appropriate way and in accordance with curriculum subject frameworks and guidance so that pupils understand and appreciate diversity. This is done formally in lesson times.

## **7. Equality Impact Statement**

We will do all we can to ensure that this policy does not discriminate, directly or indirectly. We shall do this through regular monitoring and evaluation of our policies. On review we shall assess and consult relevant stakeholders on the likely impact of our policies on the promotion of all aspects of equality, as laid down in the Equality Act (2010).

This will include, but not necessarily be limited to: race; gender; sexual orientation; disability; ethnicity; religion; cultural beliefs and pregnancy/maternity. We will use an appropriate Equality Impact Assessment to monitor the impact of all our policies and the policy may be amended as a result of this assessment.

