



Allerton Grange School

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

2025/2026

Designated Lead: Ruth Rowbotham, CP Lead

Reviewed: Autumn 2025

Review cycle: 1 year

Next review: Autumn 2026

R Rowbotham

Anti-Bullying Policy

- Working together to achieve our full potential.
- Celebrating our diverse school community and fostering tolerance and respect for all.
- Developing active citizens within the school community and beyond.
- Inspiring confident, creative, and independent learners.

OBJECTIVES OF THIS POLICY

- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils, and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff should know what the school policy is on bullying and follow it when bullying is reported.
- All pupils and parents should know what the school policy is on bullying, and what steps they can take should their child be affected by bullying.
- As a school we take bullying seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Bullying will not be tolerated.

DEFINITION OF BULLYING

The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group where the relationships involve an imbalance of power. Bullying can be physical, verbal, or psychological. It can happen face to face or online.

ANTI-BULLYING ALLIANCE DEFINITION OF BULLYING

WHAT IS BULLYING?

- **Wilful** – The behaviour must be deliberate, not accidental.
- **Repeated** – Bullying reflects a pattern of behaviour, not just one isolated incident.
- **Harm** – The target must perceive that harm was inflicted.

BULLYING CAN TAKE MANY FORMS:

- **Physical** – hitting, kicking, pushing, spitting, pinching, sexual assault, throwing things, extortion, stealing, taking, breaking and hiding belongings or money, unwanted physical contact.
- **Verbal** – name calling, including appearance, mockery, insulting, making offensive remarks, sexual innuendo, threatening, spreading rumours, unpleasant rumours about people’s family and friends, blackmail.
- **Indirect** – spreading unpleasant stories/rumours about someone, exclusion from social groups, being made the subject of malicious rumours, graffiti, defacing of property, a display of pornographic, classist, disability, homophobic, racist, or sexual material.

CYBER BULLYING:

- Sending/posting abusive, threatening, or intimidating texts, emails, images, videos, or messages, making offensive comments or shaming someone online.
- Spreading rumours or gossip (and encouraging others to do so) on social media including trolling on social networks, chat rooms or online games.
- Sending neutral messages to someone to the point of harassment.
- Creating fake profiles on social media, making fun of someone in an online chat that includes multiple people or setting up hate sites or groups about a particular child or children.
- Attacking or killing an avatar or character in an online game, constantly and on purpose.
- Creating and/or sharing embarrassing photos or videos and sharing electronically without permission.
- excluding children from online games, activities, or friendship groups
- creating fake accounts, hijacking, or stealing online identities to embarrass a young person or cause trouble using their name
- Sending explicit messages, also known as sexting or pressuring children into sending sexual images or engaging in sexual conversations.

RACIST BULLYING:

Singled out because of the colour of their skin, the way they talk, their ethnic grouping or by their religious or cultural practices, often by using derogatory language.

TRANS BULLYING:

Affects young people who are transgender but can also affect those questioning their gender identity as well as students who are not transgender but do not conform to gender stereotypes.

CHILD ON CHILD:

Name-calling, physical assault, spreading rumours, stealing, excluding people, and turning someone's friends against them.

GENDER/SEXUALITY BULLYING:

Targets a person's sex or sexuality, can occur between people of any gender and/or sexual orientation.

SEND (SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEED & DISABILITIES) BULLYING:

Discrimination against someone because of their difficulties and differences.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO RESPOND TO BULLYING?

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everyone has the right to be treated with respect. Pupils who are bullied need to learn different ways of behaving, and bystanders need to understand the impact their role can have. Schools have a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF BULLYING TO LOOK OUT FOR:

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that they are being bullied.

Adults should be aware of these signs and should investigate if a child:

- is frightened of walking to or from school
- does not want to go on the school/public bus
- begs to be driven to school
- changes their usual routine
- is unwilling to go to school
- begins to truant
- becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence
- starts stammering
- attempts or threatens suicide or runs away
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- regularly feels ill in the morning
- begins to underachieve at school
- comes home with clothes torn or books damaged
- has possessions which are damaged or "go missing"
- asks for money or starts stealing money (to pay bully)
- has dinner or other monies continually "lost"

- comes home hungry (money/lunch has been stolen)
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- becomes aggressive, disruptive, or unreasonable
- is bullying other children or siblings
- stops eating
- is frightened to say what is wrong
- is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone
- is nervous and jumpy when a cyber-message is received
- gives improbable excuses for any of the above

These signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated.

PROCEDURES FOR DEALING WITH INCIDENTS:

Do not ignore any incident of bullying that you have witnessed or that has been reported to you. Bullying, which is unchecked, and which teachers seem to condone by ignoring, affects not only those immediately involved but the school.

If a student tells you that they are being bullied, take them seriously. Ask for as much detail as possible and ask them to write it all down if they can. Reassure them that something will be done, and it is necessary to inform other members of staff confidentially. All involved will be interviewed individually and written statements taken.

If a student reports someone being bullied, take them seriously and praise them for letting you know. Then follow the in-school protocol.

If a student is identified as a persistent bully, they will be required to attend weekly intervention after school to undertake some restorative work.

Bullying

Staff member has concerns a student is being bullied

Record on CPOMS and alert Ruth Rowbotham

Ruth Rowbotham to alert Anti-bullying co-ordinator

Liaison/discussion with appropriate year team

Year team implement any actions and complete RAG action plan

File RAG sheet in 'Summary of Evidence' folder

Keystage Coordinator inform Ruth Rowbotham what actions have been taken and update CPOMS

Investigations into bullying incidents

Date bullying was reported.....

Student/Students involved.....

Action		
Member of staff identified to lead on the incident/investigation	Initials	
First offence/non-physical/non discriminatory		
A. Written statements from students must be taken as soon as possible. These statements must be dated, signed and filed. All students involved must be allowed to give his/her version of events.	Tick or N/A	
B. Record on CPOMS logging the victim as the named student but enter the culprit as linked student and alert Ruth Rowbotham- include your actions.		
C. Sanction issued (verbal warning/behaviour point/detention/community service depending on what is appropriate). Log the incident on Class Charts as verbal abuse or whatever is deemed appropriate		
D. Inform victim of actions		
Physical/discriminatory		
Complete points A and B		
E. Check CCTV if necessary i.e. physical bullying		
F. Contact the parents of the culprit and the victim to inform them of the incident and actions. <input type="checkbox"/> Parent meeting <input type="checkbox"/> Phone call		
G. Involve safeguarding team/Keystage Leader in investigation if appropriate.		
H. Exclusion/isolation given to culprit and recorded on Class Charts as bullying.		
I. Conduct mediation between victim and culprit if the victim is happy to participate.		
J. Ensure year team and form tutors monitor the situation. After 1-2 weeks speak to the victim and victim's parents to ensure the issue isn't continuing.		
Continuous bullying (any form)		
Complete points A B E G		
K. Conduct a parent meeting with SLT for culprit and make contact with victims parents via phone or meeting.		
L. Issue isolation/external isolation/exclusion- SLT/year teams discretion - Log on Class Charts.		
M. Culprit must undertake take 6 week bullying intervention with year team coach.		
N. Formal apology given to the victim.		
O. G&S or welfare checks offered to the victim on a weekly basis from the year team.		

Notes/any other actions:		
Record all action taken and any minutes of meetings and file.		
All actions MUST be recorded on CPOMS		

ORGANISATIONS FOR HELP AND ADVICE:

Allerton Grange Anti-Bullying helpline - 07518219265

Email – safe@allertongrange.com

Our team of Bullying Ambassadors can be contacted during school hours.

Details can be found on the school's anti-bullying noticeboard. Alternatively, speak to Ms Rowbotham or your Year team.

LGBT Club – Spectrum, at Allerton Grange Details can be found on the LGBT noticeboard in school

The Anti-bullying Alliance (ABA)

Email: aba@ncb.org.uk for general enquiries.

National Children's Bureau (NCB)

Contact: 02078436000



AGS Anti-Bullying Charter

Anti-Bullying definition:

Repeated negative behaviour that is intended to make others feel upset, uncomfortable or unsafe.

Everyone in AGS school community agrees to:

Understand what bullying is and how it affects other people.

Listen to anybody who sees bullying, wants to talk about bullying, or is being bullied.

Tell someone such as a teacher, other adult, anti-bullying ambassador or peer about bullying behaviour. We will never look the other way and do nothing.

Take action by responding quickly to all bullying incidents.

Celebrate and welcome our differences.

Respect all members of our school community and their differences and unique contributions.

Contribute to our ideas to help monitor bullying and responses.

Honesty I will be honest and tell the truth.

We will:

- listen to you
- help as much as we can
- make you feel safe

You will:

- not blame others for the choices you make
- tell somebody if you are being bullied

Think before you speak because words can be hurtful

Asking for help is not getting someone INTO trouble