



## **Anti-Bullying and Harassment – Parent/Carer Information**

Brunel School believes that every child should be able to work in an environment free from bullying of any kind and they should feel safe and supported.

Brunel School is guided by the values of Integrity, Love, Availability, Inclusion, Compassion, Safeguarding, and Aspiration.

### **What is Bullying?**

**The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power**

Put simply this means any situation where your child is being deliberately and repeatedly hurt by other people and they find it hard to defend themselves.

This could be face to face or online, in school or in the community. It may be physical, or it could be verbal or emotional. For example, your child might be pushed around by others, called names, or be excluded from friendship groups.



## What are Bullying behaviours?



### **Racist bullying:**

A range of hurtful behaviour, both physical and psychological, that makes a person feel unwelcome, marginalised, excluded, powerless or worthless because of their colour, ethnicity, culture, faith community, national origin or national status.

### **Physical bullying:**

Physical bullying can include hitting, kicking, pushing, taking belongings or any use of violence, spitting, unwanted sexual contact or sexually abusive comments. It can also include interfering with another pupils' property, by stealing, hiding or damaging it or forcing someone to do something against their will.

### **Homophobic bullying:**

Homophobic bullying occurs when bullying is motivated by a prejudice against lesbian, gay or bisexual people or young people who are thought to be lesbian, gay or bisexual. It can also include young people who have gay friends, or family, or their parents/carers are gay.

### **Verbal bullying:**

Name calling, teasing, taunting, intimidation, exclusion from a group, insulting, racist or discriminatory remarks attributed to gender or sexual orientation, belittling another pupils' abilities and achievements, ridiculing another persons' appearance, way of speaking or personal mannerisms

### **Indirect/Emotional:**

Spreading stories/rumours, teasing, excluding from groups, being ignored, intimidation, tormenting or threatening behaviour/gestures

### **Cyber-bullying:**

Misusing technology (particularly the internet which includes social networking sites and mobile phones), to deliberately upset/hurt, humiliate someone (includes the misuse of associated technology; i.e. – camera/mobile phone/video etc). Cyber bullying can be an extension of face-to-face bullying with technology providing the bully with another route to harass their target.

## How can I work with Brunel School to help my child?



### 1) Understand your legal rights:

Schools have a legal duty to prevent all forms of bullying and harassment. Brunel School has an Anti-Bullying and Harassment Policy. Remember that the school may have a different view of the situation and it is important to keep an open mind.

### 2) Stay calm and focus on stopping the bullying situation:

You may be upset and angry, but it is important that you approach the school calmly and focus on what you can do together to resolve the bullying situation. Try not to get into the rights and wrongs of a situation (a lot of time can be wasted trying to 'prove' something was bullying) but focus on the impact the situation has had on your child, and what action your child needs to resolve the situation.

### 3) Make sure your child feels included:

It is important that your child feels included in any discussion and action taken. They may not be part of every meeting or phone call, but it is important that you have listened to what they want to happen next and their ideas of what would help. Even if the situation has been resolved it may be that it has had a negative impact on your child. Our **Pastoral Team** are here to help and can provide emotional and restorative activities to support your child.

### 4) Next steps:

If you are unable to resolve a bullying situation with the school, you may choose to follow the school's complaints process, and they must provide you with a copy of this by law. It is important to note that this will not necessarily resolve a situation, and the priority should always be making sure your child is safe, happy, and able to access education.

Further information, including all school policies, can be found on our website  
<https://www.brunelschool.org>