



# Anti-bullying Policy

## School statement on bullying

At Hillcross Primary School we are committed to providing an environment where every person has the right to be themselves, feel included and be able to learn in a safe and happy environment. Everyone at our school is equal and the majority of children treat each other with respect and kindness.

## What is bullying?

Bullying is when a person is hurtful or unkind to someone else, on purpose and does this several times deliberately. Bullying can be done by one person or by a group of people. A useful way to remember bullying is:

## SEVERAL TIMES ON PURPOSE (S.T.O.P)

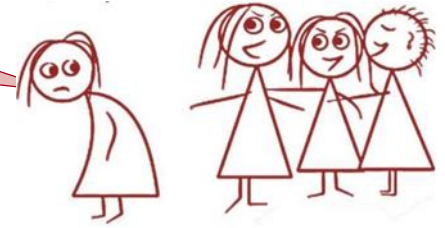
Bullying  
can be  
repeatedly:



- Hitting or saying you are going to hit someone (threatening others)
- Touching someone when they don't want to be touched
- Calling someone names, teasing, using rude language or saying nasty things about someone to them or to other people
- Stealing or damaging someone else's belongings
- Ignoring someone on purpose or leaving them out and encouraging others to do the same
- Sending hurtful or unkind texts, emails or online messages to someone or about someone



## Bullying can be about:



- Race (any one of the groups that human beings can be divided into based on shared distinctive physical traits) or ethnicity (group of people who identify with one another)
- Religion or belief
- Family and culture
- Sexist bullying, which is bullying someone because of their gender. For example, because they are a boy or girl, or saying they are acting 'like a boy' or 'like a girl'
- Homophobic or biphobic bullying, this is saying unkind or nasty things because someone is a lesbian, gay or bisexual, or because you think they are, or because they have two mums or two dads. It is also calling someone lesbian, gay, bisexual on purpose to be unkind or nasty to them, for example 'You are so gay!'
- Transphobic bullying. This is saying unkind things because someone is trans, or because you think they are trans, or being nasty about trans people (someone who feels the gender they are given as a baby doesn't match the gender they feel themselves to be).
- Special educational needs or disability
- What someone looks like
- Where someone lives

Remember bullying can happen anywhere: in or out of school or on- line (cyber bullying). Even if this occurs when you are accessing content (such as games or videos) which are not suitable for your age, you must still tell a trusted adult. Getting into trouble for breaking the rules or doing something you should not have, is better than being in an unsafe situation which could cause you significant harm. Your safety is of the utmost importance to people who care for you.



**If someone is being hurtful or unkind to you several times on purpose, for whatever reason, whether it is about you or your family or friends that is BULLYING. No one should be picked on for being different in any way, for how they act, what they look like or who their family are.**



## Why does bullying happen?

Although bullying doesn't happen very much at this school, it might happen. Bullies can be older or younger than you, bigger or smaller than you. Bullies pick on people who may be different in some way and try to make others feel worse about themselves. If you are being bullied remember that **it is never your fault**.

## What should I do if I think someone else is being bullied?

Talk to the person and ask if they're okay and try to find out if they are being bullied. If they are, ask if you can help them talk to a teacher or an adult they trust. Remember if you do not report bullying you are part of the bullying process- do not be a by stander who allows this to happen to somebody else. Take action! Tell someone immediately!

## What should I do if I'm being bullied?

If you are being bullied it is important to tell someone you trust. Tell an adult or friend, either at school or at home. If you have already told an adult about bullying you can still tell them again. You can:

1. Try not to let the bully know that he/she is making you feel upset.
2. Be assertive - stand up to them, look at them directly in the eye, tell them to stop and mean it.
3. Stay in a group, bullies usually 'pick' on individuals.
4. Get away as quickly as you can.
5. Tell someone you can trust – it can be a teacher, a teaching assistant, a midday-play leader, a parent, a friend, a playground buddy, a brother, a sister or a relative. [Tanja Doig is the anti-bullying lead in our school]
6. If you are scared, ask a friend to go with you when you tell someone.
7. If you don't feel you can talk to someone about it, write it down and hand it in to an adult or place the information in the class worry box.
8. When you tell an adult about the bullying give them as many facts as you can (What? Who? Where? When? Why? How?)
9. Keep on speaking out until someone listens and helps you.
10. Never be afraid to do something about it and act quickly.
11. Don't blame yourself for what is happening.
12. You can also call **ChildLine** at any time for free on **0800 1111**. They will not tell anyone about what you have said unless they feel it is necessary OR visit: <https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/>
13. Don't suffer in silence. This is never an option. You can get help.

To ensure everyone at our school feels happy, safe and able to learn, **THINK** before you act. Are your actions and words:

- T - TRUE?
- H - HELPFUL?
- I - INSPIRING?
- N - NECESSARY? &
- K - KIND?

