



**VAUGHAN**  
Primary School

# ANTI-BULLYING PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

SPRING TERM 2026



# AIMS OF THE SESSION

- To explain the main aims of the school's anti-bullying policy
- To reference this policy with other policies in the school
- Types of bullying
- Sanctions
- Ways in which the school promotes and reinforces anti-bullying messages
- Opportunities for questions

Individual pupil cases will not be discussed as this is a public forum. If you have any concerns, then direct them through the usual communication channels.



# What is bullying?

“Bullying” is defined as the repetitive, intentional harming of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power.

Bullying is generally characterised by:

- **Repetition:** Incidents are not one-offs; they are frequent and happen over an extended period of time.
- **Intent:** The perpetrator means to cause verbal, physical or emotional harm; it is not accidental. It is deliberately hurtful.
- **Targeting:** Bullying is generally targeted at a specific individual or group.
- **Power imbalance:** Whether real or perceived, bullying is generally based on unequal power relations and for those vulnerable, can be difficult to defend against.



# Aims of the Anti- Bullying Policy

## Statement of intent

Vaughan Primary School believes that all pupils are entitled to learn in a safe and supportive environment; this means being free from all forms of bullying behaviour. This policy outlines how instances of bullying are dealt with, including the procedures to prevent occurrences of bullying.

These strategies include, learning about tolerance and difference as part of the school's curriculum and promoting an inclusive, tolerant and supportive ethos at school.

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 outlines several legal obligations regarding the school's response to bullying. Under section 89, schools must have measures in place to encourage good behaviour and prevent all forms of bullying amongst pupils. These measures are part of the school's Behaviour Policy, which is communicated to all pupils, school staff and parents.

All staff, parents and pupils work together to prevent and reduce any instances of bullying at the school. There is a zero-tolerance policy for bullying at the school.



## **Other school policies that work in collaboration with the anti-bullying policy**

- Behaviour Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) Policy
- Searching, Screening and Confiscation in within the Behaviour Policy
- Relationships and Health Education Policy
- Suspension and Exclusion Policy
- Child-on-Child Abuse Policy

**This is not an exhaustive list**

# Types of bullying

| Types of bullying   | Definition  |
|---|---|
| Emotional   | <b>Relational bullying:</b> Bullying that primarily constitutes of excluding, isolating and ostracising someone – usually through verbal and emotional bullying.  |
| Physical  | Hitting, kicking, pushing, taking another’s belongings, any use of violence   |
| Prejudice-based and discriminatory, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Racial</li><li>• Faith-based</li><li>• Gendered (sexist)</li><li>• Homophobic/biphobic<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transphobic</li><li>• Disability-based</li></ul></li></ul> | <b>Racist bullying:</b> Bullying another person based on their ethnic background or skin colour. Racist bullying is a criminal offence under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and Public Order Act 1986.<br><b>Prejudicial bullying:</b> Bullying based on prejudices directed towards specific characteristics or experiences, e.g. religion or mental health issues.<br><b>Sexist bullying:</b> Bullying based on sexist attitudes expressed in a way to demean, intimidate or harm another person because of their sex or gender. Sexist bullying may sometimes be characterised by inappropriate sexual behaviours.<br><br><b>Please see policy for further full definitions</b> |
| Sexual  | Bullying behaviour that has a physical, psychological, verbal or non-verbal sexual dimension or dynamic that subordinates, humiliates or intimidates another person. This is commonly underpinned by sexist attitudes or gender stereotypes.<br><br>Behaviours may include: Explicit sexual remarks, display of sexual material, sexual gestures, unwanted physical attention, comments about sexual reputation or performance, or inappropriate touching   |



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| Socioeconomic     | <p>Bullying based on prejudices against the perceived social status of the victim, including, but not limited to, their economic status, their parents' occupations, their health or nutrition level, or the perceived "quality" of their clothing or belongings.</p>  |
| Cyber-bullying    | <p>Bullying that takes place online, such as through social networking sites, messaging apps, gaming sites, devices or via images, audio, video, or written content generated by artificial intelligence (AI)</p>  |





# RACISM

There have been a few unfortunate racist incidents in the last academic year. Although this represents less than 0.2% of pupils, it is still a concern for the school. When investigated, the majority of incidents have led to the discovery of pupils hearing or being part of discussions in the home (including wider family) or pupils accessing content on social media without parental knowledge.

This behaviour has been challenged and will continue to be challenged linked to the school's ethos, behaviour policy and the anti-bullying policy.

**There is a zero-tolerance policy towards racism at Vaughan Primary School. Racist bullying is a criminal offence under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and Public Order Act 1986.**



# SANCTIONS

Sanctions for bullying will be in line with the school's behaviour policy in initial instances. A written record of any investigated and proven bullying will be placed on a child's record and the school's safeguarding system. These will be reported on a termly basis to the Governing Body.

Parents of all those involved will be contacted and met by the Headteacher. It is important that a restorative approach is used where necessary and with the approval of the victim and their family as well the perpetrator and their families.

Pupils in primary school are still relatively young children, so it is important, to not criminalise behaviour and use instances as a teaching point rather than create negative stigma for the future. There needs to be support for the victim and perpetrator in moving on positively.

However, where deemed appropriate for serious examples, the Suspensions and Exclusions policy may be enacted by the Headteacher.

**There is a zero-tolerance policy towards bullying at Vaughan Primary School.**

# PROMOTING ANTI-BULLYING AND ENCOURAGING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

**There are a number of different ways in which the school promotes anti-bullying including:**

- Robust Safeguarding Practices
- 5 Trusted Adults
- Termly Whole school/class assemblies
- Pupil Voice opportunities e.g. School Council feedback, surveys, pupil conferences
- Annual Staff CPD sessions
- Annual Anti-bullying week
- Annual Parent Information Sessions
- Parent Drop in sessions
- Curriculum – PSHE, Online Safety, RSE curriculum, English





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**Questions?**

**Thank you for your  
attendance at this  
session**