

**Much Marcle C E
Primary School**

Peer on Peer Abuse Policy



Date Reviewed	Reviewed By	Next Review
September 2018	Lorna Harrison	October 2019

General Statement

This policy has been reviewed to take account the Keeping Children Safe In Education Document, September 2018.

Everyone at Much Marcle School works together to create a happy, caring, safe environment. We all have the right to feel safe and protected in school and to go home happy at the end of the school day (Valuing All Gods Children, May 2014.)

Bullying, either verbal, physical, cyber or indirect will not be accepted at Much Marcle School. It is everyone's responsibility to aim to prevent occurrences of bullying and to deal with bullying if it arises and when it is reported and to deal with any incidents quickly and effectively.

Much Marcle staff must have the attitude 'It can happen here'.

Definition of Bullying

Bullying can be described as the dominance of one pupil by another and is generally part of a pattern of behaviour rather than an isolated incident. Bullying is knowing what hurts someone and deliberately doing it. It includes a whole range of behaviours:

Type of bullying	Definition
Emotional	Being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting
Physical	Hitting, kicking, pushing, taking another's belongings, any use of violence
Racial	Racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
Sexual	Explicit sexual remarks, display of sexual material, sexual gestures or comments, unwanted physical attention or inappropriate touching
Sexting	Distribution of youth produced sexual imagery.
Gender	Name calling, teasing, isolation
Direct or indirect verbal	Name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
Cyber-bullying	Bullying that takes place online, such as through social networking sites, messaging apps or gaming sites.

What a child must do

If a child believes they are being bullied or have seen someone being bullied, they need to tell either:

- A teacher
- Another adult at school
- Mum, dad or sibling at home
- An older pupil

The school and parents will strongly encourage children that 'telling' is right and important to do.

What the school will do

Teachers and other adults working in school will take any reported incidents of bullying seriously. An emphasis will always be placed on a caring, listening approach. The following action will be taken by the school.

- A discussion with the victim will take place and if appropriate, details recorded. It is important that the child is believed.
- Identification of the bully/bullies, obtaining witnesses if possible.
- Report to the Headteacher.
- Discuss the situation with the bully. Confront him/her with the details and ask him/her to tell the truth about the incident. Record the information gathered
- Carry out separate discussions with the parents of the bully and victim.
- Insist that the bully makes amends for the distress that has been caused.

This will include:

- Apologising to the victim
- Helping the victim in a caring way with activities at school

SANCTIONS for the bully may include:

- Conduct Mark
- Loss of free time
- Withdrawal from favoured extra-curriculum activities
- Exclusion

The school will continue to monitor the situation

- By observing at playtimes/lunchtimes
- By having discussions with the victim and the bully to ensure that there is no repetition
- By continuing to provide support for the victim and the bully

What a parent can do

If your child tells you that they are being bullied or if you suspect your child of bullying, you should:

Talk to the class teacher

You should:

- Talk calmly with your child about his/her experiences
- Make a note of what your child says, particularly of who was involved, how often the bullying has occurred, where it happened and what happened
- Reassure your child that he/she has done the right thing in telling you about the bullying
- Explain to your child that, should any further incident occur, he/she should report it to a teacher straight away and tell you about it
- Make an appointment to see your child's class teacher
- Explain to the teacher the problems your child is experiencing

When talking to your child's teacher to:

- Try to be as specific as possible – the teacher may have no idea that your child is being bullied or is bullying and will need the names of the other children involved in order to take effective action to stop the bullying
- Stay in touch with the school after this meeting (let them know if things improve as well as if problems continue).

If you are not satisfied with the class teacher's response, you will need to speak to the Headteacher. If the Headteacher is unable to resolve a parent's complaint, or the parent feels that the action taken to stop the bullying is insufficient, a parent may make a complaint to the school governors (See Complaints Procedure online.)

Preventing bullying

The school will teach each child to have respect for others and to be caring and kind. This will be done through the teaching of our Christian Values, talking about behaviour in assemblies, in personal, social and health education lessons, Religious Education lessons and in Circle Time. The ethos of our school encourages and rewards respectful relationships and good behaviour.

The school will always work with families to model and encourage caring relationships and good behaviour. Parents have the important task of preparing their child to fit into the social world outside the family.

Conclusion

By having a whole-school approach to prevent and/or eliminate bullying at Much Marcle School, an important contribution is being made to the school ethos that encourages 'non-bullying' behaviour and views bullying as unacceptable.