



Anti-Bullying Policy

Ysgol Sant Dunawd has consulted with the following groups in developing this policy:

- Pupils (*Questionnaires, PSE lessons, Circle Time, School Council, Worry Boxes and PASS Survey*)
- Parents/carers
- Staff
- Governors
- Lunchtime supervisors (*through discussion and logged incidents*)
- LA Guidance (*Wrexham Anti-Bullying Guidance 2015*)
- Community Police Officers (*workshops with children*)

At Ysgol Sant Dunawd we are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils so that they can learn in a supportive, relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at Ysgol Sant Dunawd and will not be tolerated. If bullying does occur; all pupils are taught and encouraged to tell an adult, and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly, fairly and effectively.

1. What is Bullying?

Based upon the definition from 050/2011: *Respecting Others guidance* which states that bullying is:

- “Deliberately hurtful (including aggression)
- Repeated, often over a period of time, while recognising that even a one-off incident can leave a learner traumatised and nervous of future recurrence
- Difficult for victims to defend themselves against.”

Ysgol Sant Dunawd has defined bullying as:

- Behaviour which deliberately makes another person feel uncomfortable, distressed or threatened.
- Bullying is intentional and occurs more than once.
- Bullying makes those being bullied feel powerless to defend themselves.

2. Types of Bullying Behaviour

Frequently, bullying behaviours arise from difference or perceived difference: Disability, ability, gender, appearance or circumstance can make young people particularly vulnerable to bullying. Able pupils as well as those with learning difficulties may also be affected by this.



Ysgol Sant Dunawd identifies the following as types of bullying behaviour:

- **Emotional/Indirect** - being unfriendly, intimidation, excluding, tormenting, threatening behaviour
- **Verbal** - name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- **Physical** – damaging property, pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- **Extortion** - demanding money/goods with threats
- **Cyber** - all areas of internet, email and internet chat-room misuse. Mobile threats by text messaging and calls. Misuse of associated technology i.e. camera and video facilities including those on mobile phones.
- **Racist** - racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- **Sexual** - unwanted physical contact, sexually abusive comments
- **Homophobic** - because of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality

3. Strategies for the school in dealing with and preventing bullying behaviour

Ysgol Sant Dunawd fosters a clear understanding that bullying, in any form, is not acceptable and it is addressed as a whole school issue. This is done by:

Dealing with bullying as a whole-school issue:

- Our policy has been reviewed and is in accordance with the latest guidance from the Welsh Assembly Government and Wrexham LA. Procedures to deal with incidents of bullying have been put into place and all staff are aware of these procedures.
- Active involvement with pupils in deciding upon definitions and ways to prevent and deal with bullying.
- Pupils regularly discuss issues surrounding bullying during PSE lessons and during their Circle Time sessions. They carry out work based on the theme of bullying across the curriculum for example, in English they write poetry, stories and design posters. They use ICT skills to develop PowerPoint presentations to present to other children within our school. They convey their feelings and thoughts through role play. They study how groups of people have been bullied throughout History and the effects this has on society.
- We celebrate Anti-Bullying week annually.
- The implementation of SEAL across the whole school establishes strong foundations to prevent bullying. At the core of SEAL are the social and emotional skills that create a social climate that does not tolerate bullying behaviour of any kind. Learners are encouraged to develop the skills associated with empathy which drives them to refrain from hurting others and to challenge those that do so. They are encouraged to build a learning community where they feel responsible for including their peers, and can develop and practice the skills associated with building positive relationships. They are supported to learn and practice the skills of assertiveness so they become more able to resist negative peer pressure, and are taught strategies to help them resolve conflicts before relationships are damaged or ill feeling escalates into bullying.
- Regular praise of positive and supportive behaviour is used by all staff.



- Any incidents are treated seriously and are dealt with immediately and with a consistent whole school approach.

Strategies to prevent bullying behaviour:

- *Circle Time* - helps to create a positive ethos and builds the self-esteem of each child. It encourages children to take responsibility for the consequences of their actions.
- *Peer Support Groups*
- *Restorative Practice Training*
- *Student Assistance Programme (SAP)*
- *Friends for Life group*
- *Use of SEAL in PSE lessons*

4. Strategies for Parents

It is important that all staff, pupils and parents should be aware that if bullying exists, we share a commitment to combat it and to make our school a happy place for everyone. We value the support of our parents and believe that it is key to the success of our anti-bullying strategies. Our parents are kept informed through:

- Parent's Evenings
- Anti-bullying week – guidance sent home
- Leaflets
- SEAL family resources sent home
- The school prospectus
- Information posted on our Facebook site when appropriate
- Our 'open door' policy

Dealing with suspected incidents of bullying

We ask parents to contact the school as soon as possible if they suspect that their child is being bullied. Parents should:

- Talk to the child calmly about the situation – try not to panic.
- Listen and reassure the child that coming to you was the right thing to do.
- Assure them that the bullying is not their fault and that you are there to support them.
- Make a note of what the child says.
- Find out what the child wants to happen next.
- Make an appointment to see the child's **teacher** as soon as possible.
- Discuss the next steps with the **class teacher** and make a note of the action to be taken.
- Agree upon a follow up meeting to review/monitor the situation.
- If you do not feel the situation is being dealt with successfully, make an appointment to see the **Deputy/Head Teacher**.



If, following discussion, we confirm a child has been displaying bullying behaviour towards another pupil we will contact the parents to discuss the situation. We will ask parents to support us by:

- Talking to the child and explaining that this behaviour is wrong and makes others unhappy
- Showing the child how to join in with others without bullying
- Make an appointment to see the child's **teacher** as soon as possible (to discuss how the school and the parents together can help the child to change their behaviour)
- Talking to the child regularly about how things are going at school
- Giving the child lots of praise and encouragement when they are being kind and considerate to others.
- Remembering that a child is not a bully, it is the way that they are choosing to behave and that behaviour can be changed. It is often the case that when a child chooses to bully others, they are often crying out for help themselves.

5. Strategies for Pupils

At Ysgol Sant Dunawd we encourage all of our pupils to 'tell' someone if they are being bullied or if they know that another pupil is being bullied. At no point should they keep it to themselves. The person they choose to tell can either be:

- Another pupil
- Class Teacher
- Another member of teaching staff
- A member of the School Council
- Teaching Assistant
- Lunchtime Supervisor
- Deputy/Head Teacher
- Parents/Carers
- If the child is unable to tell, they are encouraged to write a note and place it in the class worry box.

During PSE lessons, Circle time and Anti-bullying week pupils are shown ways of dealing with bullying behaviour. They learn ways of resisting peer pressure and are given possible ways of 'getting out' of threatening situations. If our pupils are faced with this situation, we encourage them to:

- Stay calm and act confident (even if you do not feel it)
- Tell the person who is bullying you that you do not like the way they are treating you
- Think of a reason to leave the situation (make something up if necessary)
- Tell someone in school straight away (if you can't report it immediately try to write down exactly what happened and who was involved)
- Tell your parents as soon as you get home
- Remember it is not your fault and you do not have to put up with it!
- Remember - as soon as you tell someone, the situation is going to improve!



6. Procedures for reporting and dealing with incidents of bullying

If a child has been involved in a bullying incident the following procedures will be followed:

- A meeting will be held with both the victim and the child who has bullied (separate meeting initially). Both parties will be given a chance to share their feelings.
- If the child who has bullied shows remorse and recognises that they have acted wrongly, the incident will be recorded by the class teacher and the situation will be monitored closely.
- The child will be issued with a red consequence card (see Behaviour Policy).
- However, if the child continues to bully the victim, the situation will be logged officially with the Anti-bullying Coordinator and Head teacher.
- The child's parents will be invited into school to discuss the matter and to discuss next steps.
- The child may be withdrawn from break and lunch times for a fixed period of time.
- Withdrawal from the group/class if necessary.
- Support from outside agencies e.g. counselling services.
- If all of the above steps fail in helping the child to change their behaviour then it may be necessary to exclude the child for a fixed period (see Behaviour Policy).

Incidents of bullying on the grounds of protected characteristics:

Strong legislation exists (for Wales, the UK and internationally) which aims to protect the rights of children and young people to a life free from abuse and harm, including bullying. Hate Crime is a crime or incident committed because of who someone is or who someone thinks they are. This may include:

- Verbal abuse
- Offensive graffiti
- Threatening behaviour
- Damage to property
- Assault
- Cyber bullying
- Abusive texts, emails or phone calls
- Taking money

People in immediate danger should:

- Call the Police directly by dialling 999, or 101 for non-emergencies.
- Victim Support can be contacted directly on (Free) 0300 30 31 982 (24/7) to contact Victim Support directly. Calls are treated confidentially and there is the option to remain anonymous.
- Reporting online is available at www.reportheate.victimsupport.org.uk



PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING & DEALING WITH INCIDENTS OF BULLYING AT YSGOL SANT DUNAWD

Child reports they are being bullied

