



BARRY COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

POLICY STATEMENT - ANTI BULLYING

Rationale

The school recognises its role in providing an extension of the secure and happy environment a child would expect to receive at home. It is appreciated that any form of bullying experienced by a pupil would destroy such an aim, and is therefore unacceptable.

Definition

Behaviour constitutes bullying when a pupil is subjected to verbal abuse or repeated teasing. The term also covers hitting, threatening and taking of possessions.

Purpose

1. To promote a non-violent ethos in the school;
2. To establish principles and guidelines which seek to prevent bullying occurring;
3. To create an environment in which all pupils will report bullying to an adult with the confidence that the incident will be investigated;
4. To deal with reported incidents in a single, formalised stepped approach;
5. To advise the school, its feeder junior school and the whole community that bullying, in any form, will not be tolerated.

Guidelines

1. All pupils will be familiarised with the types of behaviour which constitutes bullying, including new forms of bullying via electronic communications, as part of the school's Disciplinary Policy.
2. The school perceives that prevention is best achieved by informing both staff and pupils that all reported incidents are dealt with and, if proven, have rigorous sanctions associated.
3. All staff will be issued with written information concerning bullying and strategies for counteracting it.
4. The preventative approach is enhanced by all pupils understanding that "someone will tell" and that anyone who partakes in the practice cannot hope for anonymity.
5. A small group of staff will be trained to apply a common approach and pupils will be enabled to select adults whom they would wish to deal with the problem. This group will follow the detailed guidelines to be published in conjunction with this document. All interviews will be formally minuted and sanctions outlined at each stage of the procedure to enable pupils to be fully aware of the outcome of their actions.

6. Parental involvement will be sought early in the proceedings and further steps taken to enlist the participation of members of the School's Governing Body.
7. The school is prepared to exclude from its roll any pupil who does not respond to the measures taken to eliminate the problem he/she has precipitated.

Conclusion

This policy is to be considered as a major aspect of the Pastoral Care and Welfare of Pupils strategy of the School. It should be considered in close association with all other policies related to the social, physical and emotional well-being of pupils, and equal opportunities.