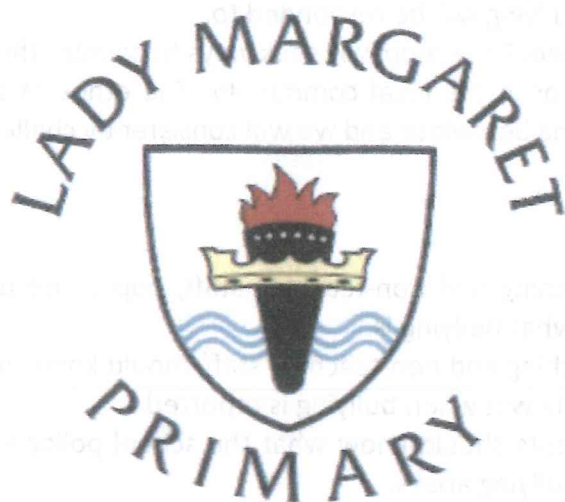
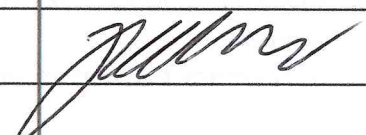


Lady Margaret Primary School



Where children come FIRST

Anti-bullying Policy

Governing Body Sub Committee	Published	Review Date	Author
Full Governing Body			
Author's Signature			
Headteacher's Signature			
Chair of Governors Signature			

At Lady Margaret Primary School, we believe that every pupil has the right to learn in a safe, caring and nurturing environment. Therefore we take bullying very seriously. No one person or group, whether pupil or staff, should have to accept bullying behaviour. Only when all issues of bullying are addressed will the pupils be best able to benefit from all the opportunities available at school.

Principles and Values

As a school, we take bullying and its impact seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that known incidents of bullying will be responded to.

Bullying will not be tolerated. The school will seek ways to counter the effects of bullying that may occur within school or in the local community. The ethos of our school fosters high expectations of outstanding behaviour and we will consistently challenge any behaviour that falls below this.

Objectives of this Policy

- ✓ All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- ✓ All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff should know what the school policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported.
- ✓ All pupils and parents should know what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises.

All of us have encountered bullying at some point in our lives, but we all deal with it differently. The aim of this policy is to work together to ensure that our school is a safe place for children and adults to be; whether the school community is directly or indirectly affected by bullying or not.

What is bullying?

The stopbullying.gov.uk website states:

“In order to be considered bullying, the behaviour must be aggressive and include:

- ✓ An imbalance of power: children who bully use their power – such as: physical strength, access to embarrassing information, or popularity – to control or harm others. Power imbalances can change over time and in different situations, even if they involve the same people.
- ✓ Repetition: Bullying behaviours happen more than once or have the potential to happen more than once.

Bullying includes actions such as: making threats, spreading rumours, attacking someone physically or verbally and excluding someone from a group or purpose.

There are 3 types of bullying:

Verbal bullying is saying or writing mean things. Verbal bullying includes:

- Teasing
- Name-calling
- Inappropriate sexual comments
- Taunting
- Threatening to cause harm
-

Social bullying, sometimes referred to as relationship bullying, involves hurting someone's reputation or relationships. Social bullying includes:

- Leaving someone out on purpose
- Telling other children not to be friends with someone
- Spreading rumours about someone
- Embarrassing someone in public

Physical bullying involves hurting a person's body or possessions. Physical bullying includes:

- Hitting/kicking/pinching
- Spitting
- Tripping/pushing
- Taking or breaking someone's things
- Making mean or rude hand gestures

Bullying may be related to:

- Race
- Gender
- Religion
- Culture
- SEN or disability
- Appearance or health condition
- Home circumstances, including young carers and poverty
- Sexual orientation, sexism, or sexual bullying, homophobia

Bullying affects everyone, not just the bullies and the victims. It affects those who watch bullying take place and friends and family of the bullies and the victims. Bullying is not and should never be an inevitable part of school life or a necessary part of growing up.

Signs and Symptoms for Parents and Staff

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that he or she is being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and that they should investigate if a child:

- is frightened of walking to or from school
- begs to be driven to school
- changes their usual routine

- is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
- begins to be truant
- becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence
- starts stammering
- attempts or threatens suicide or runs away
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- feels ill in the morning
- begins to make less effort with school work than previously
- comes home with clothes torn or books damaged
- has possessions which are damaged or 'go missing'
- asks for money or starts stealing money
- has dinner or other monies continually 'lost'
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- comes home hungry (lunch has been stolen)
- becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- is bullying other children or siblings
- stops eating
- is frightened to say what's wrong
- gives improbable excuses for any of the above
- is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone
- is nervous and jumpy when a cyber-message is received
- lack of eye contact
- becoming short tempered
- change in attitude to people at home.

These signs and behaviours could indicate other social, emotional and/or mental health problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated along with incidents, sanctions and reconciliation.

What causes bullying?

Pupils may begin to bullying:

- To feel powerful
- Jealousy
- To feel good about themselves
- To be in control
- Because they want someone (attention, possessions or friends)
- To look good in front of other people
- To feel popular
- Because of peer pressure
- To be big/clever
- For fun
- Because they are being bullied themselves
- Because they see and pick on an easy target (small, won't tell anyone, lonely or different in some way).

Add – what we do to prevent bullying?

RR etc

How we deal with bullying at LMPS

9.0 Support Agencies

Anti-bullying Alliance - the alliance brings together over 60 organisations into one network with the aim of reducing bullying. Their website has a parent section with links to recommended organisations who can help with bullying issues

www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Kidscape

www.kidscape.org.uk

02077303300

Childline – advice and stories from children who have survived bullying

08000 1111

Bullying on line

www.bullying.co.uk

Parentline Plus – advice and links for parents www.parentlineplus.org.uk

08088002222

Parents Against Bullying

01928 576152

Useful sources of information

CEOP- one of the first websites set up in this area, for young people, providing advice around preventing and taking action against cyberbullying. <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

Chatdanger - a website that informs about the potential dangers online (including bullying), and advice on how to stay safe while chatting www.chatdanger.com

Know IT All for Parents – a range of resources for primary and secondary schools by Childnet International. Has a sample family agreement www.childnet-int.org/kia/parents