



### **Definition of bullying**

Any complaint received from a student who believes that he is being emotionally, physically or verbally abused, will be considered as a bullying offence and will be investigated fully.

### **What is bullying?**

Bullying is a deliberately hurtful action of an ongoing nature where the victim finds it difficult to defend him/herself. Moreover, bullying is any verbal insult or physical act (or a combination of both) which leaves the recipient feeling any number of the following:

- Vulnerable
- Insecure
- Distressed
- Discriminated against
- Inferior
- In physical pain
- Pressurized into carrying out the bully's demands

Such feelings/consequences can arise when subjected to:

- Persistent name calling
- Deliberate exclusion by peers from group activities
- Threatening behaviour
- Racist behaviour
- Sexist and homophobic attitudes
- On-going physical/verbal abuse
- Discriminatory behaviour amongst class mates
- Being the subject of malicious rumours.

Bullying infringes on an individual's right to learn and thrive in a secure and safe environment. Hence the aggressor's action/s must never be allowed to continue or be ignored by the victim, witnesses or adults (staff/family).

### **Why are we against bullying?**

'Every Child Matters'.....because:

- Everyone has the right to feel welcome, secure and happy.
- We should treat everyone with consideration.
- If bullying happens it will be dealt with quickly and effectively.
- It is important to tell someone.
- Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school.

### **How can we prevent bullying?**

At Rawdha we foster a clear understanding that bullying, in any form, is not acceptable. This is done by:

- Developing an effective anti-bullying policy and practice. The school is a safe and happy environment, with consequent improvements in attitudes, behaviour, and relationships and with a positive impact on learning and achievement.
- Pupils are regularly praised for positive and supportive behaviour by all staff.



- Assembly topics on a daily basis which develops empathy and emotional intelligence (SEAL).
- Any incidents are treated seriously and dealt with immediately.

**In order to minimize bullying incidents we will:**

- **Ensure** all pupils are aware of the school's bullying policy.
- **Encourage** non- aggressive relationships between pupils.
- **Instil** appropriate values and good relations via the school curriculum.
- **Teach** all pupils to value one another's racial, cultural and linguistic backgrounds, as well as, one another's abilities in order so that these are not seen as grounds for discriminatory behaviour. This will be achieved through the Islamic curriculum, PSHE and extra-curricular activities that reflect equality.
- **Monitor** student relationships and changes.
- **Examine** and remedy the school's physical environment and recreational areas.
- **Include** all staff in our strategy against bullying.

**In case of a Bullying incident**

- The victim **must** relate the incident to a member of staff of their choice. Alternatively, they may relate the incident to a family member who, in turn must contact the school.
- The school will deal promptly and fairly with the incident including both the victim's and the aggressor's parents, if necessary.
- Every effort will be made and action will be taken to restore the victim's sense of security.
- The bully will be sanctioned appropriately and assisted to understand the need for kind relations between fellow students. Depending on the nature and severity of the incident, suspension or even expulsion could be imposed upon the aggressor.
- Staff will continue to monitor the situation afterwards, to ensure no further problems have arisen.
- The victim and the bully will be supported by outside agencies if this is deemed necessary.



## Procedure in School for Reporting Bullying

### Pathways of Help

Child is bullied



#### **Step 1**

Student personally approaches:

- Class teacher or assistant
- Non - teaching trusted member of the school community
- Support Staff

If it continues



#### **Step 2**

- **Student meets with class teacher**
- Discussion on the facts
- Suggested ways forward
- Short review time

If it continues



#### **Step 3**

- Senior member of staff holds discussion/Interview with all parties
- Use suggested and agreed actions/strategies
- Parents informed
- Short term review



## 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](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk)**

Kidscape

[www.kidscape.org.uk](http://www.kidscape.org.uk)

02077303300

**Childline** – advice and stories from children who have survived bullying  
08000 1111

**Bullying on line**

[www.bullying.co.uk](http://www.bullying.co.uk)

**Parentline Plus** – advice and links for parents [www.parentlineplus.org.uk](http://www.parentlineplus.org.uk)  
08088002222

**Parents Against Bullying**

01928 576152

## **Useful sources of information**

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

**Think U Know** - the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP), has produced a set of resources around internet safety for secondary schools [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

**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](http://www.childnet-int.org/kia/parents)