Calverley Parkside Primary School

Cyberbullying Policy

At Calverley Parkside Primary School we are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils so that they can learn in a secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. If bullying does occur, all pupils should be able to tell someone and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively.

We have a clear behaviour policy in school which is built around mutual respect and the values of being ready, being respectful and being responsible.

We are a TELLING school. This means that anybody who is aware that bullying may be happening is expected to tell a member of staff or another child you trust. Our shared and understood approach is…

See something, say something.

At Calverley Parkside we understand the ever changing nature of technology and the increased availability of social media and online communication opportunities available to children. As with all other areas of bullying, Parkside has a zero tolerance approach to cyber and online bullying.

Aim of the policy

● All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, students and parents should have an understanding of what cyberbullying is.

● All governors and teaching and non-teaching staff should know what the school's policy is on cyberbullying and follow it when bullying is reported.

● All students and parents should know what the school's policy is on cyberbullying and what they should do if bullying arises.

● As a school we take cyberbullying seriously. Students and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.

● Cyberbullying will not be tolerated.

What Is Cyberbullying? How is it different from other forms of bullying?

Cyberbullying may be defined as 'the use of electronic communication, particularly mobile phones and the internet, to bully a person, typically by sending messages of an intimidating or threatening nature: children and adults may be reluctant to admit to being the victims of cyberbullying'. It can take a number of different forms: threats and intimidation, harassment or 'cyber-stalking' (e.g. repeatedly sending unwanted texts or instant messages), sexting (e.g sending and receiving sexually explicit messages, primarily between mobile phones) vilification/defamation, exclusion/peer rejection, impersonation, unauthorised publication of private information/images and 'trolling' (using the internet to provoke or offend others online), posting photos which somebody else has asked you not to.

It can be an extension of face-to-face bullying, with technology providing the bully with another route to harass their target. However it differs from other forms of bullying in several significant ways:

• By facilitating a far more extreme invasion of personal space. Cyberbullying can take place at any time and intrude into spaces that have previously been regarded as safe and personal.

• The potential for anonymity on the part of the bully. This can be extremely distressing for the victim.

• The potential for the bully to play very rapidly to a larger audience so the scale and scope of cyberbullying can be greater than for other forms of bullying.

• Through the knowledge that the data is in the world-wide domain, disproportionately amplifying the negative effect on the victim, even though the bully may feel his / her actual actions have been no worse than conventional forms of bullying

• The difficulty in controlling electronically circulated messages as more people get drawn in as accessories. By passing on a humiliating picture or message, a bystander becomes an accessory to the bullying.

• The ability to delete messages and evidence of bullying (delete function added to messages on WhatsApp for example/ voice messages). It is important the victim saves the information where possible (screenshotting before the bully has the ability to remove the messages/ saving recorded messages).

• The profile of the bully and target can be different to other forms of bullying as cyberbullying can take place between peers and across generations.

We use the acronym **STOP** to help us to remember that bullying is something which happens...

Several **T**imes **O**n **P**urpose

It is important to remember that when something has been posted online, it is there forever.

Proactive, preventative measures:

- Learning Mentor
- Support for parents/carers on online safety and the positive use of technology
- Plan and deliver a curriculum on online safety in computing lessons which builds resilience in pupils to protect themselves and others online.
- Outside of online safety units, ensure an online safety lesson starter in computing lessons.
- Ensure that all pupils are given clear guidance on the use of technology safely and positively both in school and beyond including how to manage their personal data and how to report abuse and bullying online.
- PSHE lessons
- Internet filtering

Guidance

For staff:

If you suspect or are told about a cyber-bullying incident, follow the protocol outlined below:

Mobile Phones
- Ask the pupil to show you the mobile phone.
- Note clearly everything on the screen relating to an inappropriate text message or image, to include the date, time and names.
- Make a transcript of a spoken message, again record date, times and names.
- Tell the pupil to save the message/image.
- Inform a member of the safeguarding team immediately and pass them the information that you have.

Computers
- Ask the pupil to get up on-screen the material in question
- Ask the pupil to save the material
- Print off the offending material straight away
- Make sure you have got all pages in the right order and that there are no omissions
- Inform a member of the safeguarding team and pass them the information that you have
- Normal procedures to interview pupils and to take statements will then be followed particularly if a child protection issue is presented (see Anti-Bullying Policy)

For pupils:

Remember that whilst you need to stand up for yourself, do not fight fire with fire. If you retaliate, you will be acting in the same way as the bully.

- Do not answer abusive messages but save them and report them
- Do not delete anything until it has been shown to your parents/carers or a member of staff at school (even if it is upsetting, the material is important evidence which may need to be used later as proof of cyber-bullying)
- Do not answer a call from an unknown or withheld number
- Do not give out personal details or contact information without the permission of a parent/guardian (personal data)
- Be careful who you allow to become a friend online and think about what information you want them to see.
- Protect your password. Do not share it with anyone else and change it regularly
- Always log off from the computer when you have finished or if you leave the computer for any reason.
- Always put the privacy filters on to the sites you use. If you are not sure how to do this, ask a teacher or your parents.

- Never reply to abusive emails
- Never reply to someone you do not know
- Always stay in public areas in chat rooms
- The school will deal with cyberbullying in the same way as other bullying.
- Do not think that because it is online it is different to other forms of bullying.
- The school will deal with inappropriate use of technology in the same way as other types of inappropriate behaviour and processes will be followed in-line with the school's behaviour and Anti-Bullying policy.
- Only children in Year 6 should have their phones in school. These should be switched off before entering the school grounds and not switched back on until they have left the school grounds. The only exception to this is if a parent has requested that a child sends them a message to confirm that they have arrived safely at school.

For parents:

- Parents/carers can help by making sure their child understands the school's policy and, above all, how seriously the school takes incidents of cyber-bullying.
- If parents/carers believe their child is the victim of cyber-bullying, they should save the offending material (if need be by saving the offensive text on their computer or on their child's mobile phone) and make sure they have all relevant information before deleting anything.
- Parents/carers should contact the school as soon as possible. Please contact a member of the team listed below. Or contact the Senior Leadership Team at cpsleadership@cps.owlcotesmat.org
- If the incident falls outside of school time, the school has an obligation to take action against bullying perpetrated outside the school, both in and out of term time.
- Please also visit our ESafety page on the school website here.

Procedures:

Calverley Parkside Primary School procedure for dealing with incidents of Bullying:

- If bullying is suspected or reported, the incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff who has been approached. In all cases, this will be recorded by staff on CPOMS.
- After dealing with or being made aware of an incident, class teachers will follow up on a regular basis to check that the situation has been resolved and that there have been no further incidents. Lunchtime supervisors will also be made aware of the situation.
- If a problem persists, or in cases of serious bullying, the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher will interview all concerned and record the incident. Parents of all involved parties will be contacted to make them aware of the situation and to invite them into school to discuss the problem.
- All bullying behaviour must be responded to and stopped immediately.
- Every effort will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour. Additional systems may be required, for example, individual behaviour charts.

For more details about how the school will support pupils who have been the victim of bullying or the pupils who have been carrying out the bullying, see the school's Anti-Bullying Policy.

Points of contact:

Our school has an experienced and approachable team, who are available if any children have issues to discuss:

Mr Steele (Headteacher)
Mr Jolley (Deputy Headteacher)
Mr Hosany (SENDCo)
Mrs Stark (Learning Mentor)
Mrs Lucy Larkin (SLT)
Miss Claire O'Connell (EYFS Leader)

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