



Banbury Aspirations Campus Anti-Bullying Policy

1. Policy Statement

At Wykham Park Academy and Futures Institute, we are committed to providing a safe, caring, and inclusive environment for all students, staff, and visitors. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. If bullying does occur, all students should be able to report it and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. This policy outlines our approach to preventing and addressing bullying, in compliance with The Education Act 2002 Section 175 and The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014.

2. Definition of Bullying

Bullying is the repetitive, intentional harming of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. Bullying can be:

- **Emotional:** being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting.
- **Physical:** pushing, kicking, hitting, punching, or any use of violence.
- **Racial:** racial taunts, graffiti, gestures.
- **Sexual:** unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments.
- **Homophobic:** because of, or focusing on the issue of sexuality.
- **Verbal:** name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing.
- **Cyberbullying:** all areas of the internet, such as email and internet chat room misuse; mobile threats by text messaging and calls; misuse of associated technology, i.e., camera and video facilities.

3. Signs of Bullying

Bullying can have significant effects on a young person's physical and emotional well-being. Signs that a child may be experiencing bullying include, but are not limited to:

- **Physical Signs:**
 - Unexplained injuries or bruises.
 - Lost or damaged belongings.
 - Frequent complaints of feeling unwell or faking illness to avoid school.
- **Emotional and Behavioural Signs:**
 - Sudden changes in behaviour or mood, such as becoming withdrawn or anxious.
 - Changes in eating habits, such as skipping meals or binge eating.



- Difficulty sleeping or frequent nightmares.
- Declining grades and loss of interest in schoolwork.
- **Social Signs:**
 - Avoidance of social situations or loss of friends.
 - Reluctance to go to school or take part in school activities.
 - Decreased self-esteem and confidence.
- **Technological Signs:**
 - Reluctance to use electronic devices or engage in online activities.
 - Sudden changes in use of electronic devices, such as increased or decreased use.
 - Upset after using the internet or receiving text messages.

If any of these signs are observed, it is important for parents, carers, and school staff to communicate with the child and investigate further to determine if bullying is occurring.

4. Aims and Objectives

- To ensure all students, staff, and parents understand what bullying is.
- To ensure all staff know and understand the school's policy on bullying and follow it when bullying is reported.
- To ensure all students and parents know the school's policy on bullying and what they should do if bullying arises.
- To assure students that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- To prevent bullying by promoting a positive school ethos.

5. Prevention

To prevent bullying, at Banbury Aspirations Campus we will:

- Promote positive behaviour and respect among students through the curriculum and school ethos.
- Use a variety of methods for helping children to prevent bullying, including assemblies, PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, and Economic education), and workshops.
- Encourage students to report any bullying they experience or witness.
- Train staff to identify and tackle bullying appropriately.
- Provide opportunities for students to discuss bullying and its effects.



6. Procedures

If bullying is reported, the following procedures will be followed:

- **Reporting:** Students are encouraged to report bullying to any staff member. Staff should report bullying incidents to the designated anti-bullying lead.
- **Investigation:** The Head of College or the Deputy Head of College will conduct a thorough investigation, including interviews with all parties involved.
- **Recording:** All incidents of bullying will be recorded in the school's bullying log.
- **Response:** Appropriate actions will be taken, which may include:
 - Informing parents/carers.
 - Applying disciplinary measures in accordance with the school's behaviour policy.
 - Providing support to the victim and the perpetrator.
 - Facilitating restorative justice practices where appropriate.
- **Follow-Up:** Regular check-ins with the victim and perpetrator to ensure the bullying has ceased and to provide ongoing support.

7. Support

Banbury Aspirations Campus offers support for both the victim and the perpetrator:

- **Victims:** Counselling services, peer support programs, and regular follow-ups.
- **Perpetrators:** Behavioural counselling, educational workshops on empathy and respectful relationships, and monitoring of behaviour.

8. Roles and Responsibilities

- **Governors:** Ensure the policy is reviewed regularly and its implementation is monitored, in line with The Education Act 2002 Section 175 and The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014.
- **Headteacher:** Implement the policy and ensure all staff are aware of it.
- **Staff:** Take all forms of bullying seriously, investigate incidents, and follow the school's procedures.
- **Students:** Report any bullying and support peers who are victims of bullying.
- **Parents/Carers:** Report any concerns about bullying to the school and work with the school to support their child.



9. Seeking Advice and Help

If a child is being bullied, or if a parent or carer has concerns about bullying, it is important to seek help promptly. Here are the steps to take:

- **Contact the School:**
 - Speak to your child's class teacher or college team about your concerns.
 - Arrange a meeting with the student's Head of College or Senior Leadership Team.
 - Report the bullying incident via the school's designated reporting channels (e.g., a specific email address or an online reporting system).
- **External Support:**
 - **Childline:** Children can call 0800 1111 for free, confidential advice and support.
 - **NSPCC:** Parents and carers can contact the NSPCC helpline at 0808 800 5000 for advice.
 - **Bullying UK:** Offers a helpline at 0808 800 2222 and online resources for both parents and children.
 - **Kidscape:** Provides advice and resources for preventing and dealing with bullying. Visit [Kidscape](#) for more information.
- **Local Authorities and Agencies:**
 - Contact local child protection services or social services if you believe a child is in immediate danger.
 - Seek support from local community groups and mental health services if the bullying is impacting the child's well-being.

10. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Senior Leadership Team and the Governing Body to ensure its effectiveness. Feedback from students, staff, and parents will be considered in these reviews.

11. Conclusion

Bullying will not be tolerated at Banbury Aspirations Campus. By working together, we can create a safe and supportive environment for everyone.

Date of Policy Implementation: July 2024

Next Review Date: July 2025



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an Aspirations Academy



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