



# LONG DITTON

## INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

THE HEART OF LONG DITTON SINCE 1911

### Anti Bullying Statement 2019

At Long Ditton Infant and Nursery School we want to clarify our thoughts on bullying to maintain, and improve, our happy and safe school environment. We are a Living Values school and underpin all that we do with our chosen core 11 values. This means that our ethos is for children to be encouraged to be self-disciplined, encouraged to make a positive contribution to the development of a safe, fair and just school where everyone is respected in order to create a positive learning environment for all.

This statement applies to the children attending the school. Staff should refer to the code of conduct. Parental behaviour is not under the jurisdiction of this statement. Any concerns relating to parental behaviour should be referred to the police.

#### What is Bullying?

Bullying happens when one person or a group tries to upset another person by repeatedly saying nasty or hurtful things. Sometimes bullies hit or kick others; sometimes they tease them repeatedly. The person who is being bullied finds it difficult to stop this happening and is worried that it will happen again.

Bullying is generally an act that is repeated over time with the intention of hurting or upsetting another. Bullying can take any of these forms:

- Verbal

Name calling, teasing, put downs, threats.

- Physical

Hitting, punching, kicking, poking, tripping, and stealing.

- Social

Ignoring, excluding, alienating, and leaving someone out.

- Psychological

Spreading rumours, nasty looks, hiding or damaging possessions.

- Cyber

Repeated unwanted or hurtful attention through any online communication intended to harm, damage, humiliate or isolate another person.

### What is not bullying?

It may not be bullying when two people have a fight or disagreement, this may be a simple friendship conflict. Sometimes when a child falls out with a friend it can be very upsetting, and both might both say some unkind things but this does not always mean they are being bullied. We do not use the word 'bullying' for the general rough and tumble of school life.

### What is our school's policy on bullying?

Our school uses the "No-Blame" approach to bullying. An important message we aim to give to children who are being bullied is "It's not your fault". We also want our children to know that it is an adult's responsibility to try and make things better for them.

### What our school does to tackle bullying?

- We use restorative approaches.
- Buddies.
- Circle time discussions.
- A quick response to children and parents' concerns.
- Good communication between teachers, activity leaders, and other staff.

### What you should do if you think your child is being bullied.

- Talk to your child.

- Talk to your child's teacher as soon as possible about your concerns.
- Keep a diary of any incidents that your child has raised.
- Talk to the Head teacher

### What you should do if you think your child is bullying others.

Children may be involved in bullying other pupils at some time or other. Often parents are not aware that their child is involved in bullying. Children sometimes bully others because:

- They don't know it's wrong.
- They are copying older brothers or sisters or other people in the family whom they admire.
- They haven't learnt other, better, ways of mixing with their school friends.
- Their friends encourage them to bully.
- They are going through a difficult time and are acting out aggressive feelings.

If you think your child may be involved in bullying others:

- Talk with your child; explain that what he or she is doing is unacceptable and makes other children unhappy.
- Discourage other members of your family from bullying behaviour or from using aggression or force to get what they want.
- Show your child how he/she can join in with other children without bullying.
- Make an appointment to see your child's class teacher; explain to the teacher the problems your child is experiencing; discuss with the teacher how you and the school can stop him or her bullying others.
- Regularly check with your child how things are going at school.
- Give your child lots of praise and encouragement when he or she is co-operative or kind to other people.

We aim to work in partnership with both parents and children so if you have any questions or concerns about bullying please speak to your child's teacher or Head teacher and encourage your child to do so. Please also refer to each class' Anti-Bullying Charter and the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.