

NEWTOWN LINFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL



Anti-Bullying Policy

(To be read in conjunction with the
Behaviour Policy.)

Reviewed: Nov 2025

Next Review: Nov 2027

Introduction

Under Section 175 of the Education Act 2002, all schools must safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils. At Newtown Linford Primary School, we are committed to ensuring that all children feel safe, valued, and happy. Bullying is a serious issue, and all adults in school work proactively to prevent it by fostering a positive, respectful, and inclusive environment.

Definition of Bullying

Bullying is defined as **behaviour by an individual or group, repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another person either physically or emotionally**. While bullying is typically repetitive, one-off incidents can also cause significant harm and will be addressed appropriately. Bullying may occur face-to-face, through third parties, or via digital platforms and social media.

Forms of Bullying

- **Physical:** Kicking, hitting, pushing, damaging belongings, sexual violence, initiation/hazing type behaviours.
- **Verbal:** Name-calling, mocking, threats, offensive comments, sexual harassment.
- **Relational:** Exclusion, deliberate ignoring, gossiping, spreading rumours.
- **Cyberbullying:** Abusive messages, images or videos, impersonation, online harassment, misuse of AI-generated content, deep fakes, aggravated sexting, upskirting.

Child-on-Child Abuse

We recognise that bullying can include **child-on-child abuse**, including sexual harassment and violence. These behaviours are addressed in line with our Safeguarding and Behaviour Policies and in accordance with *Keeping Children Safe in Education (2025)*.

Actions Taken

Bullying is not tolerated at Newtown Linford Primary School. All reported incidents are taken seriously and responded to promptly. Support is provided to both the victim and the perpetrator to ensure safety, accountability, and learning.

Procedure for Handling Bullying Allegations

1. An appropriate member of staff (usually the class teacher) will investigate the allegation promptly and sensitively.
2. Actions will be taken in line with the school's Behaviour Policy.
3. The victim will be reassured and offered support.
4. A record of the incident will be kept, and parents/carers of all parties will be informed.
5. The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) will be notified.
6. If appropriate, a meeting will be held with the bully's parents/carers and a member of SLT to agree on strategies for improvement.
7. Staff will be informed to monitor and support the situation.
8. In extreme cases, exclusion may be considered.

Response to Allegations

All adults in school will respond effectively by:

- Ensuring the victim is safe and feels supported.
- Listening to all perspectives, including the victim, the perpetrator, and witnesses.
- Helping the perpetrator understand the impact of their actions and take responsibility.
- Reinforcing that bullying is unacceptable and will be addressed.
- Using risk assessments and behaviour plans where necessary.
- Demonstrating to the school community that bullying is taken seriously.

Preventive Measures

We take a whole-school approach to prevent bullying, including:

- Teaching the **PSHE curriculum** across all year groups.
- Assembly on **five trusted adults** in school
- Regular **assemblies** focused on respect, empathy, and inclusion.
- **Trained lunchtime supervisors** to support positive play.
- Promoting a **respectful school culture** through adult modelling.
- Recognising **Anti-Bullying Week** annually.
- Teaching **e-safety** through Computing and PSHE.
- Providing **worry boxes** in classrooms for anonymous concerns.
- Empowering pupils through an **active School Council**.
- Informing parents of the Anti-Bullying Policy and reporting procedures.

Legislation and Guidance

This policy is informed by the following:

- *Keeping Children Safe in Education (2025)*
- *Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023)*
- *Preventing and Tackling Bullying (2017)*
- *Equality Act 2010*

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Senior Leadership Team. Monitoring will include behaviour logs, pupil surveys, staff feedback, and parental consultation. Updated versions will be published on the school website.