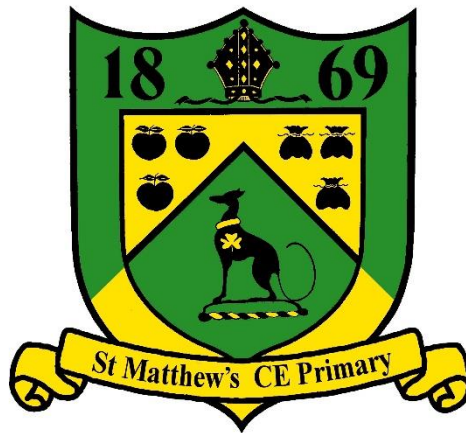


St Matthew's C.E. Primary School



Policy for

Anti-Bullying in Forest School

*'That the man of God may be competent, equipped
for every good work.'*

Timothy 3:17

Review date September 2023

Introduction

This policy applies to all members of the forest school, to children and to adults. It is to protect both children and adults from bullying whether by children or adults (i.e. child to child, adult to child, adult to adult or child to adult). Bullying and accusations of bullying, including cyber bullying, will be treated very seriously and with sensitivity and respect. We recognise that bullying exists. However, bullying in any form by any child or adult will be considered unacceptable. We regard bullying as the persistent, willful and conscious desire to hurt, threaten or frighten someone, either physically, verbally, through gestures or online. We expect staff and parents to treat bullying and aggressive behaviour in an open and frank way, so that communication and trust can develop for all parties concerned. We will treat every allegation of bullying seriously and aim to take immediate action to investigate the allegation. We will provide all parties involved in bullying, i.e. the accuser and the accused, with support systems and opportunities to resolve situations of conflict. Whereas we accept that bullying cannot be tolerated, we recognise that children who bully others sometimes have issues themselves that they need to resolve.

Aims

- To create and maintain a high profile consensus to caring for the welfare of all the people within and beyond the school built upon the foundation of our values.
- To give every member of the Forest School opportunities to develop fully and flourish with confidence and in trust.
- To promote an empathetic approach to diversity.
- To ensure there are consistent behaviour management procedures that support the early identification of bullying, and take subsequent appropriate steps to alleviate situations of conflict.
- To communicate openly with the necessary parties in order to resolve situations of conflict swiftly and as appropriate to context.
- To meet those concerned individually and find out the facts of any incident. To keep parents informed and to involve parents in these discussions when appropriate.
- To break up bully groups where necessary.
- To help children develop positive strategies and assertiveness.
- To record incidents of bullying and support programs so that they can be monitored. Records are kept confidentially.
- To involve and discuss with children (and parents where necessary) agreed rules and behaviour.

Within the context of Forest School we uphold this policy and will develop any appropriate risk assessment on an individual basis as necessary. Where necessary, a ratio of adults to children can be changed to accommodate any behaviour / bullying situation. We will approach all bullying with a sensitive, but equally rigorous manner to resolve the situation. This will ensure all children and adults feel safe at Forest School.