



# **Akrotiri School**

## **Anti- Bullying Policy**

**Dated 17<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

**Review 2021**

## **Aim of this Policy:**

The aim of the anti-bullying policy is to ensure that pupils learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied. Bullying is anti-social behaviour and affects everyone; it is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Only when all issues of bullying are addressed will pupils be able to fully benefit from the opportunities available at our school.

## **Statutory duty of schools**

Headteachers have a legal duty under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 to draw up procedures to prevent bullying among pupils and to bring these procedures to the attention of staff, parents and pupils.

## **Objectives of the policy**

- All governors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents should have an *understanding* of what bullying is
- All teaching and non-teaching staff should know what the school policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported
- All pupils and parents should know what they should do if bullying arises
- As a school we take bullying seriously. Pupils and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported
- Bullying will not be tolerated

## **What is Bullying?**

- Bullying is behaviour which deliberately makes another person feel uncomfortable, distressed or threatened
- Bullying is repeated over time
- Bullying makes those being bullied feel powerless to defend themselves



## **Why are we against Bullying?**

**‘Every Child Matters’** ..... *because:*

- Everyone has the right to feel welcome, secure and happy
- We should treat everyone with consideration

## **What types of Bullying are there?**

- Emotional - being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting, threatening behaviour
- Verbal - name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- Physical - pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Extortion demanding money/goods with threats
- Cyber - all areas of internet, email and internet chatroom misuse. Mobile threats by text messaging and calls. Misuse of associated technology ie: camera and video facilities including those on mobile phones.
- Racist - racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Sexual - unwanted physical contact, sexually abusive comments
- Homophobic - because of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality

### **What are the signs and symptoms of Bullying?**

A person may indicate by signs or behaviours that they are being bullied. Everyone should be aware of these possible signs and should investigate if the person:

- Is frightened of walking to or from school or changes route
- Doesn't want to go on the school / public bus
- Begs to be driven to school
- Changes their usual routine
- Is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
- Begins to truant
- Becomes withdrawn, anxious or lacking in confidence
- Becomes aggressive, abusive, disruptive or unreasonable
- Starts stammering
- Threatens or attempts suicide
- Threatens or attempts self harm
- Threatens or attempts to run away
- Cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- Feels ill in the morning
- Performance in school work begins to drop
- Comes home with clothes torn, property damaged or 'missing'
- Asks for money or starts stealing money
- Has unexplained cuts or bruises
- Comes home 'starving'
- Starts bullying others, becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- Shows changes in eating habits
- Is frightened to say what is wrong
- Is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone
- Is nervous or jumpy when a cyber message is received
- Give improbable excuses for their behaviour

### **How we strive to keep Akrotiri School a Bully Free Zone.**

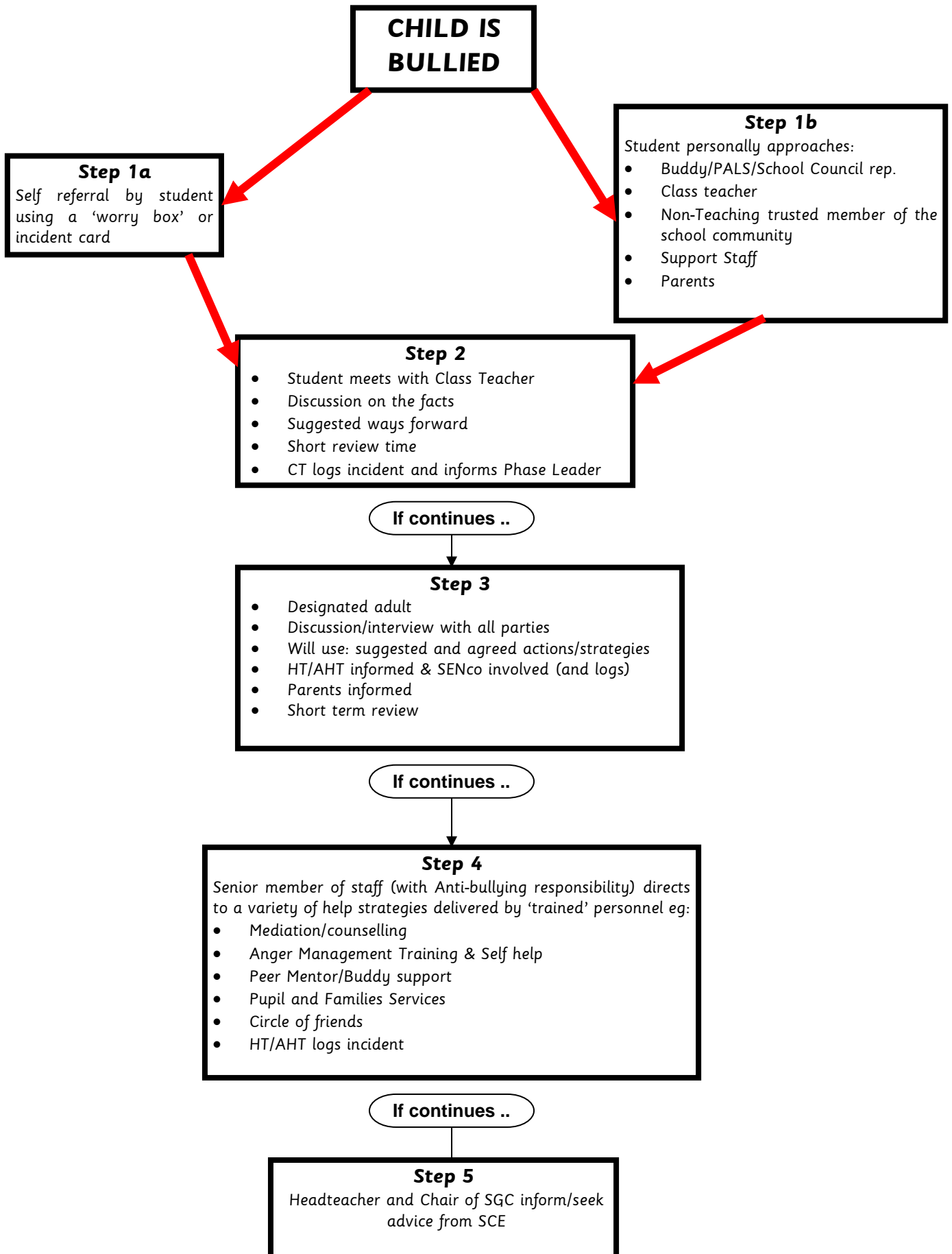
Akrotiri School fosters a clear understanding that bullying, in any form, is not acceptable. This is done by:

- On going development of an effective anti-bullying policy and practice
- Regular praise for positive, supportive and respectful behaviour
- Work in school which develops empathy and emotional intelligence (SEAL) and circle time
- Any incidents treated seriously and dealt with immediately
- A clear, child friendly chart in each working area which informs children of what they can do if they feel bullied
- A clear, child friendly chart setting out the consequences of bullying
- A designated week to develop children's understanding of bullying behaviour.

**RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES IN SCHOOL FOR**

# REPORTING BULLYING

## PATHWAYS OF HELP



## **Support Agencies**

Anti-bullying Alliance - the alliance brings together over 60 organisations into one network with the aim of reducing bullying. Their website has a parent section with links to recommended organisations who can help with bullying issues

[www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk)

### **Kidscape**

[www.kidscape.org.uk](http://www.kidscape.org.uk)

02077303300

**Childline** - advice and stories from children who have survived bullying

### **Bullying on line**

[www.bullying.co.uk](http://www.bullying.co.uk)

**Parentline Plus** - advice and links for parents [www.parentlineplus.org.uk](http://www.parentlineplus.org.uk)

08088002222

## **Useful sources of information**

Cyberbullying.org - one of the first websites set up in this area, for young people, providing advice around preventing and taking action against cyber bullying. A Canadian based site [www.cyberbullying.org](http://www.cyberbullying.org)

**Think U know** - the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP), has produced a set of resources around internet safety for secondary schools

[www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

**Know IT All for Parents** - a range of resources for primary and secondary schools by Childnet International. Has a sample family agreement [www.childnet-int.org/kia/parents](http://www.childnet-int.org/kia/parents)

## ***ACKNOWLEDGEMENT***

This Bullying Policy has been produced with reference to:

- 1) DCSF - Safe to Learn. Embedding anti bullying work in schools
- 2) North Lincolnshire Anti Bullying Policy
- 3) Green Lane primary School, Middlesborough Anti Bullying Policy