



LYONSDOWN SCHOOL

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

APPENDIX 2

Cyberbullying

This policy also applies to the EYFS

Updated	Review Date	Version
January 2019	January 2020	2019.02

Signed: Ms Andrea Morley (Chair of Governing Board)

Please also refer to the E-safety Policy

CYBERBULLYING

This policy has been put together with regard to the DFE advice “Preventing and Tackling Bullying” July 2017, “Cyberbullying: Advice for headteachers and school staff” 2014 and “Behaviour and Discipline in Schools” February 2014. This policy also addresses the legislation given by the Equality Act 2010 safeguarding arrangements as detailed in the “Children Act” 1989 and criminal law.¹ It should be read in conjuncture with the main Anti-Bullying Policy and the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedures, with particular note being paid to Appendix 13: extra guidance on sexting.

Cyberbullying – Understanding and addressing the issues

While cyberbullying is likely to be low level in primary schools, the age of pupils making proficient use of technology is ever decreasing. Therefore, the opportunities for pupils to bully or be bullied via technology, such as e-mail, texts or social networking sites, are becoming more frequent.

The school will differentiate between In-school incidents and out-of-school incidents

Measures to prevent cyber-bullying include:

In-School:

- *Responsibility for online safety sits with the DSL, providing training and updating job descriptions as necessary*
- *Teaching pupils about appropriate behaviour when using technology provides a vital grounding for future use. Whilst not wanting to provoke unrecognized opportunities in pupils, consideration must be given to suitable teaching and procedures to address any issues of cyberbullying.*
- *Building resilience in all pupils to support them in coping with bullying, but also so they have the knowledge and confidence to report bullying behaviour. This is done in assemblies, Computing lessons, PSHCE lessons and across lessons, break time and other activities*
- *The E-Safety Policy makes clear what are acceptable e-communications for pupils while under school supervision (to include Internet, email, mobile phone, device, electronic games etc.) and for staff on school premises.*
- *The school’s Staff Acceptable Use Policy outlines their expected conduct online.*
- *The parent/pupil IT Acceptable Use Policies (governor approved) support the E-Safety Policy and make parents aware of pupils’ rights and responsibilities in their use of new technologies, and what the sanctions are for misuse. Policy documentation on the school website is updated as required and such information is disseminated to parents. They will also be provided with the opportunity to find out more about cyberbullying through guidance from outside agencies (eg. E-safety seminars provided in school).*
- *Infringements of the above to be treated as disciplinary events (staff or pupil infringements) unless considered a Safeguarding matter.*
- *Assessing the risk of cyberbullying. The school will take all reasonable precautions to ensure against cyberbullying whilst pupils are in its care. However, due to the global and connected nature of new technologies, it is not possible to guarantee that inappropriate use via a school computer will not occur.*

Out-of-School, involving Lyonsdown pupils or staff whose behaviour is impacting on

¹ Although bullying in itself is not a specific criminal offence in the UK it is important to note that some types of harassing or threatening behaviour, or communications, could be a criminal offence under the “Protection from Harassment Act” 1997, the “Malicious Communications Act” 1998, the “Communication Act” 2003 and the “Public Order Act” 1986. The school should seek Police assistance if it is felt that offence may have been committed.

another Lyonsdown pupil or member of staff:

- *Factual evidence must be provided.*
- *The school cannot accept liability for inappropriate use, or any consequences resulting from use outside of the school.*
- *We make clear that we will adopt a multi-agency approach; if what we are presented with is a Safeguarding issue we will inform the Barnet MASH team, if a criminal matter the police, or any other appropriate agency.*
- *All sets of parents will be involved, except if the Barnet MASH team advise against this*
- *The school's involvement (when the incident takes place out of school) will remain educational (i.e. we will reiterate the PSHCE and Computing teaching relating to personal safety, relationships, bullying etc.) and not disciplinary. For example, any educational message will focus on:*
 - *EYFS and Lower School: recognise common uses of information technology beyond school. Use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private; identify where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content or contact on the internet or other online technologies.*
 - *Upper School: use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly; recognise acceptable/unacceptable behaviour; identify a range of ways to report concerns about content and contact.*
- *We will share this strategy with the parents, so they know what is likely to happen if they raise an external e-safety matter with us (such as pupil to pupil cyber-bullying, inappropriate texts from a teacher etc)*
- *We will not get involved when the issue does not involve current staff or pupils at the school, with the exception of reporting Safeguarding matters*