



Policies and Procedures

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY



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At the Greek Primary School of London it is our purpose for all our pupils and staff:

- ✓ To feel happy, safe and included
- ✓ To work in an environment without harassment, intimidation or fear.

For these reasons:

- ✓ Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school
- ✓ We will provide support to every pupil or member of staff who has been bullied.

OUR AIMS

- ✓ To provide a learning environment free from any threat or fear.
- ✓ To reduce and to eradicate wherever possible, instances in which pupils are made to feel frightened, excluded or unhappy.
- ✓ To establish a means of dealing with bullying.
- ✓ To ensure support to pupils who have been bullied.
- ✓ To help pupils who behave inappropriately to co-operate with their peers and members of staff.
- ✓ To ensure that all pupils and staff are aware of the policy and implement it

OBJECTIVES OF THIS POLICY

With this policy the Greek Primary School intends:

- ✓ To ensure that all teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils and parents understand of what bullying is.
- ✓ To inform all teaching and non-teaching staff what the school policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported.
- ✓ To inform all pupils and parents what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises.
- ✓ To ensure that at the Greek School we take bullying is taken seriously and to support pupils and parents in such cases.
- ✓ To meet any legal obligations which rest with the school.

This policy complies with DCSF guidance 'Safe to learn: embedding anti-bullying work in schools, 2007.

DEFINITION OF BULLYING

“Behaviour by an individual or group, usually repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally”

Bullying can be:

- ✓ **Physical:** Pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- ✓ **Verbal:** Name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- ✓ **Emotional:** Being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures)
- ✓ **Cyber:** All areas of internet, such as email & internet chat room misuse Mobile threats by text

messaging, calls or post.

Some forms of bullying could be:

- ✓ **Racist** racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- ✓ **Sexual** unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive or homophobic comments.
- ✓ Bullying of pupils who have **special educational needs or disabilities**.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that he or she is being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and they should investigate them:

Behaviours which make us worry:

- ✓ is frightened of walking to or from school
- ✓ does not want to go on the school / public bus
- ✓ begs to be driven to school
- ✓ changes their usual routine
- ✓ begins to truant
- ✓ becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence
- ✓ starts stammering
- ✓ attempts or threatens suicide or runs away
- ✓ cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- ✓ feels ill in the morning
- ✓ begins to do poorly in school work
- ✓ comes home with clothes torn or books damaged
- ✓ has possessions which are damaged or " go missing"
- ✓ asks for money or starts stealing money (which may be to pay a bully)
- ✓ has dinner or other monies continually "lost"
- ✓ has unexplained cuts or bruises
- ✓ comes home starving (money / lunch has been stolen)
- ✓ becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- ✓ is bullying other children or siblings
- ✓ stops eating
- ✓ is frightened to say what's wrong
- ✓ gives improbable excuses for any of the above
- ✓ is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone

These signs and forms of behaviour could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated.

CREATING AN ANTI-BULLYING CLIMATE IN SCHOOL

To prevent bullying from occurring at the Greek Primary School:

- ✓ We use all the opportunities that the curriculum offers in order to read stories, draw pictures, have discussions and play drama games that underline the values of collaboration, respect, helping each other, and participation in the school's society and in the wider community.
- ✓ The pupils have the opportunity to discuss and contribute ideas about issues that concern bullying.
- ✓ Share experience and feelings
- ✓ We ask pupils where and when bullying occurs in school and we will supervise, and try to eliminate any unsafe areas that they report to us.

WHAT CAN YOU DO IF YOU FEEL YOU ARE BEING BULLIED?

- ✓ Tell the bully to stop. Make it clear that the behaviour is unwelcome and hurtful.
- ✓ Seek help. Talk to somebody whom you trust.
- ✓ Report it. Greek Primary School does not tolerate bullying. Trust the School to deal with any incident appropriately.
- ✓ Use the '*Anti-bullying box*' found around the school. If you do not know who to turn to first, write your name and the problem on a piece of paper and post it in the box. The box will be cleared at least 2 times a week and the Headteacher will make arrangements for your worry/concern to be discussed.
- ✓ Send an e-mail to: mail@dim-london.europe.sch.gr
- ✓ The issue will be then passed on to the relevant teacher.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PREVENT BULLYING ?

- ✓ Respect yourself and others.
- ✓ Try to create a relaxed atmosphere in School for everybody.
- ✓ Do not follow friends when you disagree with what they are doing.
- ✓ Learn to be tolerant and broad-minded and to rejoice in individual differences.
- ✓ Be aware of the School's anti-bullying policy and give it your full support.
- ✓ Sometimes bullies exclude people. If you are popular and have a positive peer-group, include the victim in your activities.

TEACHERS SHOULD:

- ✓ Provide support to pupil/s .
- ✓ Reassure the pupil/s that they do not deserve to be bullied and that it is not their fault.
- ✓ Assure the pupil/s that they did the right thing by reporting the incident.
- ✓ Try to ascertain the extent of the problem.
- ✓ Engage the pupil/s in making choices about how the matter may be resolved.
- ✓ Try to ensure that the pupil/s feel safe.
- ✓ Ask the pupil/s to report immediately any further incidents to us.

- ✓ Affirm that bullying can be stopped and that our school will persist with intervention until it does.
- ✓ Report incident to the Head teacher

Then the teacher or Head teacher will interview the pupil (or pupils) involved in bullying separately and will:

- ✓ Listen to their side of the events.
- ✓ Talk to anyone else who may have witnessed the bullying.
- ✓ Reinforce the message that this kind of behaviour is not acceptable to our school.
- ✓ Seek a commitment to this end.
- ✓ Contact the parents of the pupils involved.
- ✓ Keep records of incidents.
- ✓ Follow up after incidents to check that the bullying has not started again.

According to the Greek Regulation about primary schools, pupils can change school environmental in special occasion. As long as there is only one Greek primary school in London, when a serious incident occurs, we seek for specific guidance from the Greek Educational Office.

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

Everyone, staff and pupils, within the Greek Primary School are expected to:

- ✓ Act in a respectful and supportive way towards one another.
- ✓ Support and promote the objectives of this policy by their own behaviour to each other.
- ✓ Report all incidents of bullying.
- ✓ Support each other and to seek help to ensure that everyone feels happy, safe, and nobody feels excluded or afraid in school.

Parents are expected to:

- ✓ Support our anti-bullying policy and procedures.
- ✓ Discuss with their child's teacher any concerns that their child may be experiencing bullying or involved in some other way.
- ✓ Help to establish an anti-bullying culture outside of school.

Please inform the school if you think your child is being bullied.

EVALUATING OUR POLICY

- ✓ We will evaluate our anti-bullying policy using the following measures:
- ✓ The numbers of incidents that are reported to staff over a given period.
- ✓ Listening to pupils' perceptions of bullying in school through structured discussions in class.
- ✓ From the comments received from every class council.
- ✓ From the comments made by visitors and other people connected with the school.

OWNERSHIP OF THIS POLICY

- ✓ This policy applies to all staff and to all pupils, whether temporarily or permanently on the school roll.
- ✓ The Head teacher is responsible for introducing and implementing this policy. However all staff, all pupils and their parents have an active part to play in the development and maintenance of the policy, and in its success.
- ✓ The teachers committee will formally review this policy at the end of each school year based on the experiences all members of the school community had during the school year.

Signed by all teacher staff