

**Anti Bullying Policy**

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| Last Review | August 2025 |
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| Review Frequency | Annually |

**Introduction**

At Adventure in Learning, we strive to create a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for all pupils. Every child has the right to learn and flourish without fear of bullying or harassment. Our anti-bullying policy details our approach to preventing and addressing bullying and sets out the strategies for promoting healthy relationships and supporting affected pupils.

This policy should be read in conjunction with statutory guidance, including Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024, Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023, Alternative Provision Statutory Guidance (February 2025), Prevent Duty Guidance (2023, updated March 2024), Statutory Attendance Guidance (2024), and provisions of the Online Safety Act 2023.

# **Definition of Bullying**

Bullying is defined as deliberate, hurtful behaviour that is often repeated over time and is challenging for those targeted to defend against. It can take various forms, including physical, verbal, and emotional acts, as well as online harassment (cyberbullying). Adventure in Learning recognises the importance of safeguarding students from online risks and adheres to guidance on filtering and monitoring systems (KCSIE 2024).

# **Aims of the Policy**

* Promote a culture of respect, understanding, and acceptance
* Prevent bullying from occurring
* Respond effectively to incidents of bullying
* Support pupils affected by bullying
* Work in partnership with mainstream schools, parents, carers, and professionals to prevent and address bullying

# **Prevention of Bullying**

We prioritise prevention as the most effective way to address bullying. Our actions include:

* Fostering a culture of respect through curriculum and activities
* Training and supporting staff to identify and prevent bullying, including online risks and low-level concerns (KCSIE 2024)
* Encouraging pupils to report bullying to trusted adults
* Providing regular opportunities for students to discuss bullying in a safe setting
* Monitoring behaviour and intervening early at signs of bullying

# **Response to Incidents of Bullying**

All bullying incidents are taken seriously and addressed promptly to ensure pupil safety and wellbeing. Our response includes:

* Listening to and supporting pupils affected by bullying
* Investigating incidents and taking appropriate action
* Communicating with mainstream school parents and carers
* Encouraging witnesses to report concerns to trusted adults
* Taking appropriate disciplinary action against bullying behaviour
* Recording and monitoring incidents to inform prevention strategies and statutory compliance

Where bullying impacts attendance, we collaborate with pupils, families, and commissioners to agree support plans in accordance with Statutory Attendance Guidance 2024 and the Pupil Registration/Attendance Regulations 2024.

# **Support for Pupils**

We recognise that those affected by bullying may require additional help to overcome its impacts. We provide:

* Access to counselling or specialist support services as needed
* Ongoing support to ensure pupils feel safe and supported at school
* Opportunities to discuss experiences in a safe space
* Reassurance of being taken seriously and supported throughout the process
* Assistance in rebuilding peer relationships where appropriate
* Collaboration with commissioners and mainstream schools to review progress (Alternative Provision Statutory Guidance, Feb 2025)

# **Partnerships with Parents and Carers**

We believe in strong partnerships with parents and carers to effectively prevent and address bullying. Our approach includes:

* Keeping parents and carers informed of policy and procedures
* Encouraging reporting of concerns
* Collaborating on resolving incidents and preventing recurrence
* Providing support and guidance to those concerned about bullying
* Ensuring commissioning schools or local authorities are included in reviews as needed

# **Training and Development**

Ongoing staff development is essential for an effective anti-bullying approach. All staff receive regular training to:

* Understand the nature and impact of bullying, including online harm
* Identify and respond to bullying
* Develop prevention strategies
* Support pupils effectively
* Fulfil safeguarding and Prevent Duty responsibilities

# **Conclusion**

Adventure in Learning is steadfast in its commitment to a safe, supportive learning environment free of bullying. Allegations are treated with utmost seriousness, and prompt actions are taken. Our Anti-Bullying Policy details our measures to prevent bullying, encourage positive behaviour, and support victims. By fostering collaboration among pupils, parents, carers, commissioners, and staff, we build a respectful, inclusive, and welcoming community for all.

**Reviewed – 27th August 2025**