

What should I do if I do not think the bullying has been dealt with properly?

Please ask for a meeting with your child's class teacher or a senior member of staff so that you can explain your concerns. We will work with you to put the matter right as quickly as we can.

What do I do if I have met with staff and still feel that the bullying has not been dealt with properly?

We have a complaints policy and most complaints are dealt with through conversations and meetings between parents/carers and staff.

If you feel the matter has still not been resolved to your satisfaction, you are able to make a formal complaint. This will need to be submitted in writing. Formal complaints are investigated by a senior member of staff or a governor and a written response is provided to the person making the complaint. Our complaints policy is available on the Federation websites or on request at either school office.

Where can I find further information and advice about this?

We have used the expertise of a number of different organisations to ensure that we identify bullying correctly and respond effectively. These organisations provide useful advice and support to parents/carers and children as well. Here is a selection with their internet details:

- ◆ **Department for Education**—gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education
- ◆ **Bullying UK**—Bullying.co.uk
- ◆ **NSPCC**—nspcc.org.uk
- ◆ **Anti-bullying alliance**—anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk
- ◆ **NHS**—nhs.uk/Livewell/Bullying



BLUE COAT C E INFANT & JUNIOR SCHOOLS' FEDERATION



Believing, Celebrating, Succeeding



At Blue Coat:

- ◆ **We have a zero tolerance of bullying;**
- ◆ **We work with the whole community to ensure that every child is safe and happy at school.**

This leaflet contains important information for parents and carers about how we prevent acts of bullying and keep all the Blue Coat pupils safe.

What is bullying?

Bullying takes place when there is an imbalance of power between the perpetrator and the victim. Bullying can take different forms:



- Verbal (name-calling)
- Physical (kicking, hitting)
- Exclusion (preventing someone from joining a group or a game)
- Extortion (forcing someone to give money, food, toys)
- Cyber (through the internet on phones or computers)
- Racism (hurtful behaviour which is linked to a person's ethnic, religious or cultural background)
- Homophobic (hurtful behaviour which is linked to a person's sexuality)
- Sexist (hurtful behaviour which is linked to a person's gender)



Zero Tolerance

At Blue Coat C E Infant and Junior Schools we have a zero tolerance of any bullying. We usually identify bullying as a repeated targeting of hurtful behaviour by a child or group of children towards another child or group of children.

Sometimes a child can be hurt as a result of a one-off incident which will always be dealt with firmly and swiftly but would not necessarily be defined as bullying.

What do the schools do to stop bullying?

We encourage a telling culture, reminding the children regularly that if someone is getting hurt, they must tell an adult and keep telling until it stops.

All allegations are investigated straight away and our response is always firm and swift. We work to stop it happening immediately and we also set up support to ensure it does not happen again.

What records do you keep of bullying and racism?

All allegations of bullying or racism are logged in our bullying and racism logs. These logs are monitored by school leaders to ensure that repeated acts of bullying or racism are prevented. The Governors also monitor each log to assess the schools' effectiveness in dealing with bullying and racism on a regular basis.

I think my child is being bullied. What should I do?

Please tell a member of staff, for example, your child's class teacher straightaway. We will investigate and take any action necessary to stop your child from being bullied. We will try to get back to you that day to explain what our investigation has found and what we have done about it.

It is also important for you to remind your child that if they are hurt again, they must tell an adult and keep telling an adult until it stops.

Should I speak to the child I think is bullying or their parents/ carers myself?

No, we request that you do not do this. In our experience this does not resolve the issue and often leads to the situation becoming more difficult to sort out. Talk to us and we will sort the issue out and make sure that all the children involved and their parents are informed of the situation and the outcome.

What will happen if my child has been accused of bullying?

We will log the allegation and investigate it carefully before acting to resolve the situation. We would contact you to discuss the matter so that you were fully aware of what had happened and what action was being taken.

