



# Anti-Bullying Statement



At White Court School we are committed to providing a safe, respectful and inclusive environment where every child feels valued and able to learn. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. We believe that all children have the right to feel safe in school and to be treated with dignity and respect. Our school promotes a culture of kindness, compassion and belonging and we actively teach children how to build positive relationships and resolve conflict appropriately.

## What is bullying?

Bullying is defined as the **repetitive, intentional harming of one person or group by another person or group, where there is an imbalance of power**. Bullying can occur face-to-face or online and may involve individuals or groups.

Bullying can take different forms, including:

- **Emotional bullying** – excluding others, spreading rumours or deliberately hurting someone's feelings
- **Physical bullying** – hitting, pushing, kicking or damaging belongings
- **Verbal bullying** – name calling, insults or threats
- **Cyberbullying** – bullying that takes place online or through digital devices
- **Discriminatory bullying** – bullying related to race, religion, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or other protected characteristics

## Preventing bullying

We take a proactive approach to preventing bullying by:

- promoting positive relationships through our curriculum, including PSHE and Relationships Education
- teaching children about respect, empathy and healthy friendships
- encouraging children to speak to a trusted adult if they have concerns
- maintaining a strong culture of safeguarding and wellbeing
- ensuring staff receive regular safeguarding and behaviour training

## Responding to bullying

Any concerns about bullying will be taken seriously and dealt with promptly. When bullying is reported or suspected, staff will:

- listen carefully to all children involved
- investigate the incident thoroughly
- record concerns in line with safeguarding procedures
- support the child who has experienced bullying
- address the behaviour of the child displaying bullying behaviour
- work with parents and carers where appropriate

Where necessary, incidents will be managed in line with the school's Behaviour Policy and Child Protection Policy. Some behaviours, including sexual harassment, harmful sexual behaviour or serious bullying, may be treated as safeguarding concerns and managed through our safeguarding procedures.

## Supporting our children

Our priority is always the wellbeing of all children involved. We aim to:

- support children who have experienced bullying
- help children understand the impact of their behaviour
- promote restorative approaches where appropriate
- ensure bullying behaviour does not continue

## Working with parents and carers

We believe that preventing bullying works best when schools and families work together. Parents and carers are strongly encouraged to contact the school if they have any concerns about bullying so that we can work together to support children.

Further information can be found in the school's Behaviour Policy, Child Protection Policy, and Child-on-Child Abuse Policy available on the school website.

