

WHAT THE SCHOOL WILL DO?

- * Help children to be confident and develop their self-esteem
- * Help children develop an understanding of acceptable behaviour
- * Try to create an environment where all children and adults respect each other
- * Encourage children to be aware of their actions and accept responsibility for them
- * Help children develop a responsible attitude towards others
- * Encourage children to be tolerant and show compassion towards others

If an Incident of bullying occurs:

- * The class teacher will be informed and will try to find out what happened and report this to the Head Teacher
- * An appropriate member of staff will talk to the children involved
- * Incidents at lunchtime will be reported by the Mid-day Supervisors to a teacher or the Head Teacher and recorded in order to monitor any recurring incidents
- * All incidents will be dealt with in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy
- * Parents will be informed when/if it deemed necessary

WHY DO WE HAVE AN ANTI-BULLYING POLICY?

The Governors and Staff believe that all children at The John Hampden School Wendover should be able to enjoy a safe and happy environment where they can make progress academically and socially.

We feel that bullying is not a problem at The John Hampden School Wendover, but accept that no school can claim to be free from all forms of unacceptable behaviour. Although it is not an inevitable part of school life, national studies show that some form of bullying does occur in all schools. It will not be tolerated at The John Hampden School Wendover.

Through explicit teaching and through the regular reinforcement of the Behaviour Expectations and the School Values we try to help children develop an understanding of acceptable behaviour. We also encourage children to recognise that we are all different and special in our own way. These approaches aim to ensure that bullying does not occur. However, if a child feels bullied we will aim to deal with the incident in a sensitive and effective way.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure there is a partnership between children, teachers and parents. We hope you will agree that we all need to work together to make school a welcoming place for everyone. The leaflet helps us to achieve this goal.

APPENDIX 2 to the Anti-Bullying Policy



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN

Everyone at The John Hampden School Wendover is entitled to come to school and feel happy

What should be done if a child feels bullied?

Read on.....

WHAT CHILDREN SHOULD DO IF THEY FEEL WORRIED?

At appropriate times staff make it clear to children what they should do if they are worried.

If a child complains or feels threatened please encourage him/her to:

1. Talk to the class teacher or any other teacher at the school
2. Talk to the Head Teacher
3. Talk to a Teaching Assistant, Learning Support Assistant, Midday Supervisor or any other adult at school

Tell you –their parents/carers

PLEASE REASSURE YOUR CHILD THAT:-

- They will always be listened to and taken seriously
- There is always someone available to listen to them
- They must talk to someone. It is right to tell. They are not telling tales
- Being bullied is not their fault
- By not telling an adult—they are helping the bully
- If they are involved in any incident or see someone being hurt they must help them by talking to an adult. There is no such thing as an innocent bystander

THE JOHN HAMPDEN SCHOOL WENDOVER

The John Hampden School Wendover adopts the following definition of bullying:

"Bullying behaviour abuses an imbalance of power to repeatedly and intentionally cause emotional or physical harm to another person or group of people. Isolated instances of hurtful behaviour, teasing or arguments between individuals would not be seen as bullying"
(Torfaen definition 2008)

Bullying, unlike other aggressive behaviour, usually has three common features:

- It is repeated by the same person or persons
- It is deliberate, hurtful behaviour
- It has an imbalance of power meaning one person can feel defenceless

Bullying usually takes one of four forms:

Indirect/Emotional: being unfriendly, spreading rumours, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding bags or lunchboxes)

Physical: pushing, kicking, hitting, punching, slapping or any form of violence

Verbal: name-calling, teasing, threats, sarcasm

Cyber: all areas of internet misuse, such as nasty and/or threatening emails, misuse of blogs, gaming websites, internet chat rooms and instant messaging, mobile threats by text messaging & calls, misuse of associated technology, i.e. camera and video facilities

BULLYING IS NOT ACCEPTABLE AT THE JOHN HAMPDEN SCHOOL WENDOVER AND WE ALL TRY OUR BEST TO MAKE SURE THAT IT NEVER HAPPENS

ADVICE FOR PARENTS

Bullying can bring about changes in children's behaviour. Signs like these **may** show that a child is being bullied:

Signs & Symptoms

- Not wanting to come to school
- Becoming anxious and withdrawn
- Sudden bed wetting
- Crying at night/nightmares
- Feeling ill in the morning
- Truancy
- Beginning to do less well at school
- Coming home with property missing
- Unexplained cuts and bruises
- Coming home hungry
- Lacking in confidence
- Becoming aggressive and unreasonable
- Bullying other children or siblings
- Refusal to say what is wrong and evading the issue
- Giving improbably excuse to any of the above

If you think there may be a problem, please contact the school immediately. There will always be someone available to discuss things with you. You will be listened to, and taken seriously. School should be contacted directly rather than other parents approached.

Other suggestions:

Give your child a chance to talk about his/her worries.

Never keep bullying a secret. It may continue or get worse.

Never feel that this is your problem. Feel assured that the school is keen to be involved.