

YSGOL RHIWABON

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

This policy was adopted/updated by the Governing Body on:

Signed: _____ Chair of Governors

Date: _____

The policy will be reviewed: Summer term 2015

Introduction

At Ysgol Rhiwabon, our aim is to provide a welcoming, secure and safe environment. Providing successful inclusive education increases the need to support all staff in preserving good order and discipline within an environment conducive to meeting the needs of all our students.

This policy takes due regard of the Welsh Government Circular 041/2010 – “safe and effective intervention – use of reasonable force.” At Ysgol Rhiwabon we follow the principles and recommendations set out in this guidance. Our aim is to create an environment in which the use of force in relation to a pupil is unlikely and situations are diffused before it becomes necessary.

Aims

We aim to:

- create a climate where bullying is not accepted in any form
- prevent bullying
- be aware of the level of bullying in school
- ensure that staff respond consistently and appropriately to bullying
- empower victims of bullying to seek help
- inform parents
- involve everyone in action against bullying
- support those involved in bullying to change their behaviour

Definition of Bullying

Bullying is a form of cruelty and abuse that can cause great suffering and unhappiness to the person who is being bullied and to the family of that person.

Bullying of children and young people tends to happen mostly at school or on the way to and from school. It takes many forms:

- teasing
- verbal abuse
- taunting or threatening
- deliberately damaging another pupil's work or taking something of his or hers
- physical attacks
- exclusion – deliberately making someone an outsider by, for example, not allowing him or her into a game.
- cyber-bullying, that is bullying via the media of mobile phone, computer and social networking sites has become more prevalent

Policy Elements

There are four main elements. These are contained in three pamphlets and information on the school website. These pamphlets should be read in conjunction with this policy.

Action on Bullying Pamphlets:

- Information for Pupils
 - What is bullying?
 - What can I do to help to stop bullying in school?
 - What does our school think of bullying?
 - How should we behave towards one another?
- Information for Parents
 - What is bullying?
 - How might I recognise that my child is being bullied?
 - What can I do about it?
 - What will the school do about it?
 - Further information
- Information for staff
 - How might I recognise a child who is being bullied?
 - What can we do to eliminate bullying?

All pamphlets contain contact details of staff in school who will co-ordinate anti-bullying action.

Information for parents is also available on the school website.

Procedures

Most bullying happens in schools and that is where it must be dealt with. We must ensure that we deal with any suspected or reported incident of bullying quickly.

As a school we:

- use questionnaires periodically to gauge the situation
- include awareness of bullying in tutorial work and in other areas of the curriculum

- should be watchful (while on duty as well as when teaching) and report any incidents to Lead Learners or SLT
- encourage pupils to be watchful and to report any incidents

Support

Links are available through the school website

Peer Educators, coordinated by the Youth Workers on site, are available to support bullies and their victims

Other agencies, such as Childline, are advertised in the school, and contact information is available on the internet.

Responsibility and Accountability

Lead Learners and SLT deal initially with reports of bullying.

Mr Huw Phillips will coordinate the whole-school response to bullying.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The school monitors bullying and evaluates its response to bullying through periodical questionnaires, feedback from counsellors and the peer education group as well as pastoral line manager meetings.

