



## Harden Primary School

### Anti Bullying Policy 2026

<b>Date of issue:</b>	<b>Next review date:</b>	<b>Date ratified by Governing Body:</b>	
March 2026	March 2028	12 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	
	<b>Print name</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Headteacher</b>	Leanne Ruddock	<i>L Ruddock</i>	12 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
<b>On behalf of Governing Body</b>	Jenni Mayo		12 <sup>th</sup> March 2026

## Anti Bullying Policy

### LEGISLATION AND STATUTORY GUIDANCE

This policy is informed by the following legislation and statutory guidance:

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 states that all schools must have measures in place to encourage good behaviour and prevent all forms of bullying amongst pupils. The Act also gives Headteachers the power to regulate pupils' conduct when they are not on school premises or under the lawful control of school staff. This includes bullying incidents that may occur off-site, for example in the local community or through online platforms.

The Equality Act 2010 requires schools to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and to promote equality of opportunity and good relationships between people with protected characteristics such as race, disability, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

Schools also have duties under the Children Act 1989 and Children Act 2004 to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

This policy also reflects guidance from:

- Preventing and Tackling Bullying
- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Searching, Screening and Confiscation
- Behaviour in Schools
- Online Safety Act 2023 which strengthens protections for children from harmful online content and reinforces the need for schools to educate pupils about online safety and cyber-bullying.

The measures taken by schools with regard to behaviour and bullying prevention must be communicated clearly to all staff, parents and pupils.

### AIMS OF THE POLICY

The staff at Harden Primary School are committed to providing and encouraging a caring and secure environment where all pupils can learn and develop in order to prepare them for adult life. In order to do this it is vital that pupils, parents, staff and Governors are aware of what is considered unacceptable behaviour within our school, what procedures and strategies are in place to deal with incidents of bullying and how the methods intended to keep our pupils safe are monitored.

#### Harden Primary School – Six Ways to Shine

At Harden Primary School our approach to preventing and responding to bullying is underpinned by our school values, known as the **Six Ways to Shine**. These values guide expectations for behaviour and relationships across the school community.

Through the Six Ways to Shine we encourage pupils to:

- Show **kindness and respect** to everyone.
- Be **responsible** for their actions and behaviour.
- Demonstrate **honesty and integrity**.
- Show **courage** by speaking up if something is wrong.
- Work together through **co-operation and teamwork**.
- Take **pride in themselves and their community**.

These values help create a positive school culture in which bullying is less likely to occur and where pupils feel confident to report concerns.

The Six Ways to Shine are promoted through:

- assemblies
- PSHE lessons
- classroom expectations
- playground behaviour
- celebration of positive behaviour

Pupils are encouraged to reflect on how their actions demonstrate the Six Ways to Shine and how they contribute to making Harden Primary School a safe and supportive environment for everyone.

### **DEFINING BULLYING**

Bullying is **intentional behaviour that hurts another individual or group, usually repeated over time, and where there is an imbalance of power.**

Bullying can take many forms including:

#### **Verbal bullying**

- name-calling
- insulting or threatening language
- repeated teasing

#### **Physical bullying**

- hitting
- kicking
- pushing
- damaging property

#### **Social or relational bullying**

- deliberately excluding someone
- spreading rumours
- encouraging others to ignore or reject someone

#### **Cyber-bullying**

- sending hurtful messages online or by text
- sharing images or messages intended to embarrass or harm
- misuse of social media, messaging apps or online games

Bullying can also be **prejudice-based**, targeting a person because of:

- race or ethnicity
- religion or belief
- gender or gender identity
- disability or special educational needs
- sexual orientation
- family circumstances (for example being adopted or in care)

While physical bullying is often the most visible, **emotional and psychological bullying can be equally harmful** and must be addressed quickly and effectively.

### **THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR POLICY**

This policy is based on our School Behaviour Policy and the evaluation of information and evidence gained from pupils, parents and staff through questionnaires, parent meetings, discussions in class and in assemblies and from other sources of help such as the DFE publication "Prevention and Tackling Bullying". It aims to outline the school's preventative

strategies and procedures in cases of bullying. The effectiveness of this Policy and how the school could improve its monitoring of pupil behaviour is assessed through regular use of the questionnaire, discussions and talks in school assemblies, the School Council, staff being visible to parents and pupils in the playground and contact with parents and governors.

### **PREVENTATIVE STRATEGIES**

The main ways to prevent bullying are to create an ethos of good behaviour where pupils treat each other and school staff with respect, and to teach children about the importance of understanding and tolerating differences between people. This may be done in discrete PSHE lessons and school assemblies or in class in order to respond to specific situations. We also believe it necessary to regularly teach about the dangers of cyber-bullying.

Other strategies to prevent bullying are :

- During Anti-Bullying Week in November the whole school work on a theme of 'Friendship' and being a good friend. This is delivered through assemblies, displays and classroom-based activities using age-appropriate activities.
- Years Rec to 6 have an elected School Council member who can convey pupil ideas and suggestions for creating a caring and stimulating learning environment. The School Council meet with a member of the SLT to offer up pupil suggestions.
- Visits from the police and anti bullying thratre groups to deliver the message of prevention, what bullying is and what can be done about it.
- Regular assemblies and reminders to raise the awareness of bullying.
- Display of the SMART rules for keeping safe on the internet.
- When the weather permits, playground and field games are available at lunchtime and playtime which encourage co-operative play.
- Lunchtime staff are given training on identifying bullying and how to deal with it.
- Staff encourage children to report bullying and create a positive and safe environment where pupils' concerns can be expressed and problems solved without fear of victimisation.
- Parents and children's guides to bullying have been written by the parents and the school council. These are available of the school website and at the school office.
- The school promotes safe online behaviour through its computing curriculum and online safety education in line with guidance from the **UK Safer Internet Centre**.

### **DEALING WITH INCIDENTS OF BULLYING IN SCHOOL**

Please see the flow chart in appendix 1

### **BULLYING OUTSIDE SCHOOL**

Headteachers now have the power to try and regulate pupils' conduct when they are not on school premises. Bullying outside school will be investigated and acted upon. In these cases the parents of victim and perpetrator will be involved as may members of the local community eg Community Support Officer.

### **RECORDING AND REPORTING INCIDENTS**

The Headteacher has a duty to record and report incidents of racism to the Local Authority. They also record incidents of poor behaviour and bullying on CPOMs. This Log can be used to detect any patterns of bullying towards or by a particular pupil. The Headteacher must

decide when to report an incident of bullying to the Police or other authorities depending on the seriousness of the incident and other circumstances. The Headteacher will also need to decide if there is a need to involve other external services to support the child. All bullying incidents are recorded on **CPOMS** and monitored by senior leaders to identify patterns and ensure appropriate support and intervention.

### **Screening and Searching**

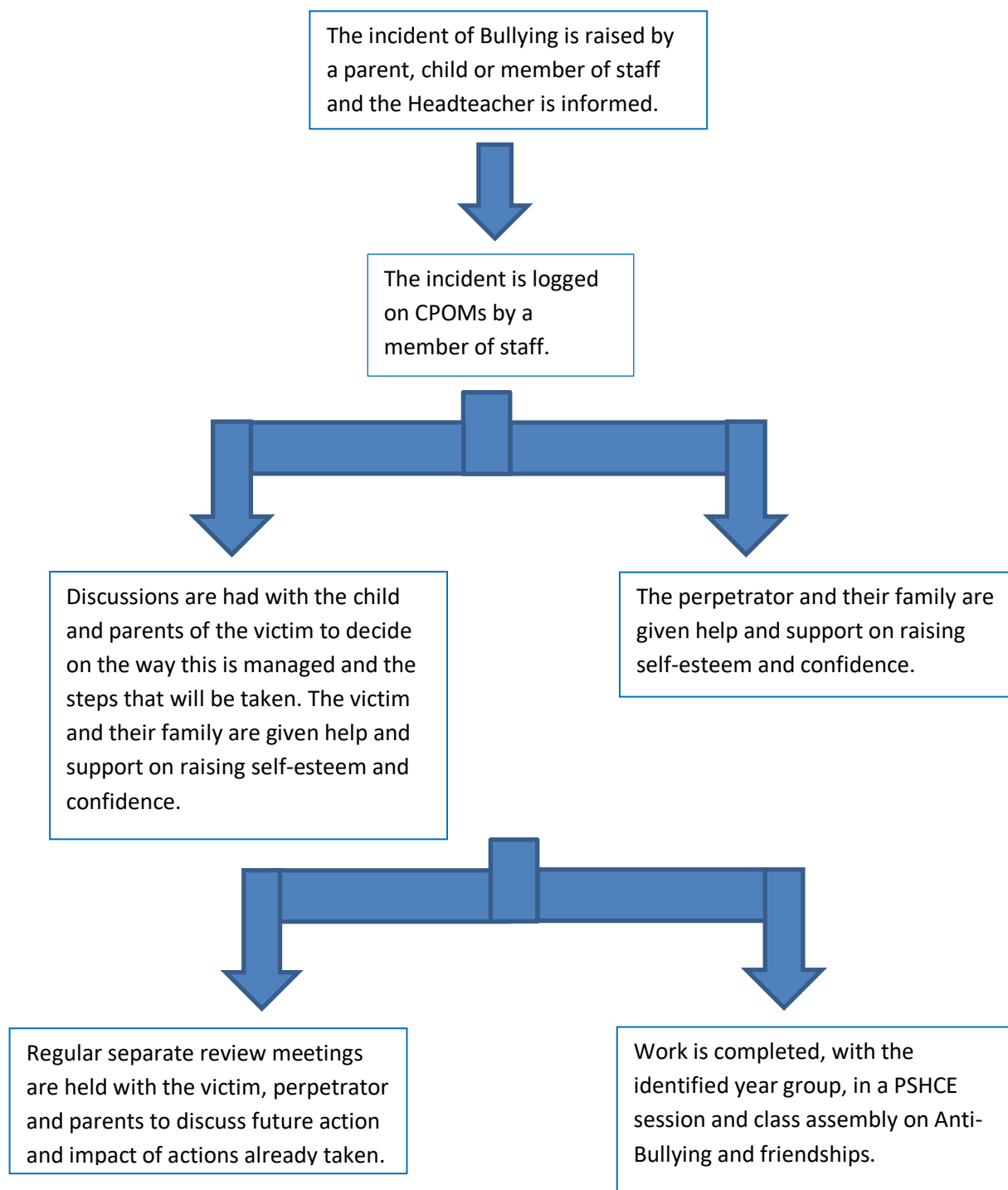
It is highly unlikely that this will be necessary in this school. However the Headteacher, or a person authorised by the Headteacher can search pupils with their verbal consent for any item that is banned under the school rules; They may search without consent for prohibited items such as; knives, weapons, illicit or stolen items. In all cases any searches will be undertaken with a witness present who is also of the same gender as the pupil. During the search the pupil may be asked to remove only outer clothing such as; hats; shoes; boots; gloves and scarves. No 'intimate' searches will take place. As a result of the search items non permitted items may be confiscated, retained or returned to the parent of the pupil. If the item is evidence in relation to an offence, staff must deliver these to the police. A search may take place without the parents' consent. However, if any harmful substances are found e.g. drugs, fireworks, tobacco based products etc, the pupil's parents will be informed. Any electronic item containing files may also be examined if there is good reason.

### **Summary**

Everyone at Harden Primary School works together to ensure that it is a place where everyone feels safe, happy and secure. The school's ethos and high standards, in every respect, enables teachers to be freed up to provide quality teaching and learning experiences. Independence, creativity and risk taking are encouraged within safe limits. Individuals are valued and respected, and behaviour management is consistently applied.

This policy should also be read in conjunction with the school's Exclusion, SEN, Child Protection and Staff Induction policies

## Flow chart for Dealing with Incidents of Bullying



**Each case of bullying will be looked at separately and actions taken will be in consultation with parents and children. These could differ in each case.**