Cyberbullying Policy

June 2020

At Bader, we recognise that technology plays an important and positive role in children's lives, both educationally and socially. We are committed to helping all members of the school community to understand both the benefits and the risks, and to equip children with the knowledge and skills to be able to use technology safely and responsibly.

Aims

The aims of this policy are to ensure that:
- children, staff and parents are educated to understand what cyberbullying is and what its consequences can be.
- knowledge, policies and procedures are in place to prevent incidents of cyberbullying in school or within the school community.
- We have effective measures to deal effectively with cases of cyberbullying and we monitor the effectiveness of prevention measures.

What is cyberbullying?

- Cyberbullying is the use of internet connected technologies to deliberately upset, offend, cause emotional distress and often of an intimidating or threatening nature.
- It can invade home/personal space and can involve a greater number of people.
- It can take place across all age groups and school staff and other adults can be targeted.
- It can draw bystanders into being accessories.
- It can include threats and intimidation; harassment or 'cyber-stalking'; vilification/defamation; exclusion or peer rejection; impersonation; unauthorised publication of private information or images ('happy-slapping'); and manipulation.

Preventing cyberbullying

- The Computing leader, parents, carers, staff and children are responsible for ensuring the monitoring and effectiveness of this policy and will report to the Head Teacher.
- All staff will be helped to keep up to date with the technologies that children are using through staff meetings.
- The children will be involved in developing and communicating a code of advice for protecting themselves from being involved in cyberbullying and for reporting cases they experience.
- Children will be taught about cyberbullying through assemblies, discussion, Anti-bullying Week, PSHE curriculum and events such as E safety week / World Safer Internet Day.
- Children and staff will sign an Acceptable Use Policy.
- Parents will be asked to sign an Acceptable Use Policy before their children are allowed to use the internet in school and at home.

Policies and practices

The school will:
- Ensure regular review and update of existing policies to include cyberbullying where appropriate.
- Keep good records of all cyberbullying incidents.
- Publicise rules and sanctions effectively – staff handbook / acceptable use policy / Digital consent IPads for Learning - acceptable use agreement / Rules for Responsible internet use (see appendices).
- Promote the positive use of all technologies.
- Make positive use of technology across the curriculum.
- Use CPD opportunities to help staff develop their practice creatively and support children in safe and responsible use.
- Ensure all staff and children understand the importance of password security and the need to log out of accounts.
- Ensure staff can recognise signs and indications of cyberbullying.
- Publicise and promote the message that asking for help is the right thing to do and shows strength and good judgement.
- Provide information on external reporting routes. E.g. Informing parents, carers, teachers or Childline, CEOP.
- Most cases of cyberbullying will be dealt with through the school's existing Anti-Bullying Policy and Behaviour Policy. Some features of cyberbullying differ from other forms of bullying and may prompt a particular response.
- All instances of reported, suspected and proven cyberbullying will be evidenced using the school filtering software. Staff will document all related incidents using CPOMS will which will be monitored regularly by the Head Teacher and Computing Leader.
- Any issues are alerted immediately to a member of staff in school.
- Children are taught, through assemblies and within the Computing Curriculum, to recognise that they are responsible for their own 'digital footprint'. All searches and content viewed online is traceable; school systems cannot block everything - children and parents cannot rely only upon the filtering and school security systems to keep children safe online.

Bader Primary School

Rules for Responsible Internet Use

The school has computers, chromebooks and iPads with internet access to help our learning.
Follow these rules to keep you safe and to ensure respect is shown to others.

- I will only access the school network with my own login and password which I will keep to myself.
- I will not access other people's files or accounts.
- I only use websites that my teacher has chosen.
- I will only email, communicate online or share content with trusted people I know, or who my teacher has approved
- The messages I send will be polite, appropriate and responsible.
- I will not give my home address, email address or telephone number to anyone.
- I will not arrange to meet anyone following online communication
- I will not open an email or online message sent by someone I don't know
- I will report any unpleasant or upsetting material or messages sent to me. This report will be made confidentially and would help protect other pupils and myself.
- I understand that the school may check my accounts, device use and files at any time as well as monitoring the internet sites that I visit.
- I use iPads, chromebooks and school computers safely and with respect for the device.
- I understand that all internet activity is filtered and monitored by school systems at all times.

Some Useful Agencies/Resources

Websites and resources that offer support guidance and strategies for children, young people, schools and parents/carers to prevent all forms of bullying:

CEOP: (Child exploitation online protection)
A newly formed government agency that is dedicated to promoting online safety for children who may be vulnerable to sexual exploitation in chat rooms. It works with a number of charities and police across the UK and has a website for secondary age pupils called 'thinkuknow'. www.ceop.gov.uk

ChildLine
This provides a 24 hour helpline for children and young people being bullied in the UK. Children and young people can call 0800 1111 to talk about any problem. It is a major charity that is now housed with NSPCC. It provides training in peer support for pupils and schools and has a range of publications and downloadable resources for children, parents and teachers. www.childline.org.uk

Kidscape
Kidscape is committed to keeping children safe from abuse. It is the first charity in the UK established specifically to prevent bullying and child sexual abuse it provides information, good resources and training for children and young people under the age of 16, their parents/carers. It offers a range of courses for professionals. It also provides courses in assertiveness training, ZAP, for children and young people and develops their confidence and skills to resist bullying and forms of abuse.
www.kidscape.org.uk

NSPCC
The NSPCC works tirelessly and promotes public campaigns to stop cruelty to children. There is advice on a number of issues related to bullying, child protection, and abuse. Kids Zone which contains details for their child protection helpline for young people who have problems at home or are being bullied.
www.nspcc.org.uk

Family and Friends of Lesbian and Gays (FFLAG)
FFLAG helps parents and families understand accept and support their lesbian gay and bisexual sons/daughters/relatives. FFLAG offers support to local parents groups and contacts, in their efforts to help parents and families understand accept and support their lesbian gay and bisexual members with love and pride.
www.fflag.org.uk

INSTeD
This provides consultancies for schools, local authorities and government departments, and for the community and voluntary sector on cultural diversity and race equality. It features stories and storytelling, multifaith education, Islamophobia, Jewish education and Israel Studies. There is a useful section to download for staff training on bullying related to race religion and culture. www.insted.co.uk/insted.html

Parentline Plus
This is a charity dedicated to support parents on all issues related to parenting and has a very helpful section on bullying. www.parentlineplus.org.uk

Tackling Cyberbullying
The government has published new guideline on dealing with cyberbullying. The guidelines would help every school tackle bullying in cyberspace with the same vigilance as in the playground but that parents and young people should also understand how to use technologies safely, work with their school to deal with any incidents. The full report of the research into cyberbullying, carried out by Peter Smith and colleagues at the Unit for School and Family Studies at Goldsmith's colleague, can be downloaded at:
www.antibullyingalliance.org.uk/downloads/pdf/cyberbullyingreportfinal23016_000.pdf