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# St Peters Out of School Club

# Anti-Bullying Policy

St Peters Out of School Club will provide a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied. Bullying of any form is not tolerated in our club, whether carried out by a child or an adult.

Staff, children and parents or carers will be made aware of the Club’s attitude towards bullying. Such behaviour is unacceptable in any form.

Any child who is a victim of a bully will be dealt with in a sympathetic manner. If bullying is suspected or reported, the incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff informed, and then discussed with the supervisor. A clear account of the incident will be recorded. All staff will be informed so that close monitoring of the victim and bully can begin. Parents of both parties will be informed.

St Peters Out of School Club defines bullying as the repeated harassment of others through emotional, physical, psychological or verbal abuse.

* **Physical:** Pushing, scratching, spitting, kicking, hitting, biting, taking or damaging belongings, tripping up, punching or using any sort of violence against another person.
* **Psychological:** Behaviour likely to create a sense of fear or anxiety in another person.
* **Emotional:** Being deliberately unkind, shunning or excluding another person from a group or tormenting them. For example, making another person feel ‘left out’ of a game or activity, passing notes about others or making fun of another person.
* **Verbal:** Name-calling, put-downs, ridiculing or using words to attack, threaten or insult. For example, spreading rumours or making fun of another person’s appearance.

## Preventing bullying behaviour

Staff at St Peters Out of School Club will promote an anti-bullying ethos and environment in the following ways:

* Encouraging caring and nurturing behaviour
* Playing and working for a caring and co-operative ethos
* Discussing friendships and encouraging paired, group and team play
* Encouraging children to report bullying without fear
* Staff will discuss the issues surrounding bullying including why bullying behaviour will not be tolerated
* Staff will discuss the consequences of bullying behaviour

## Responding to bullying behaviour

St Peters Out of School Club acknowledges that despite all efforts to prevent it, bullying behaviour is likely to occur on occasion. Should such incidents occur, the Club will respond in accordance with the following principles:

* We will address all incidents of bullying thoroughly and sensitively.
* Victims of bullying will be offered the immediate opportunity to discuss the matter with a member of staff who will reassure the child and offer support.
* They will be reassured that what they say will be taken seriously and handled sympathetically.
* Staff will support the individual who has been bullied, keeping them under close supervision, and checking their welfare regularly.
* If another child witnesses bullying and reports this, staff will reassure them that they have done the right thing. Staff will then investigate the matter.
* If a member of staff witnesses an act of bullying, involving children or adults at the club, they will inform the manager.
* Children who have bullied will be helped by discussing what has happened, establishing why the child became involved. Staff will help the child to understand why this form of behaviour is unacceptable will encourage him/her to change their behaviour
* If bullying behaviour persists, more serious actions may have to be taken, as laid out in the **Suspensions and Exclusions** policy**.**
* If appropriate, staff will facilitate a meeting between the relevant parents or carers.
* All incidents of bullying will be reported to the manager and will be recorded on an **Incident Log**. The manager and other relevant staff will review the Club’s procedures in respect of bullying, to ensure that practices are relevant and effective.

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| This policy was adopted by: St Peters Out of School Club  | Date: March 2020 |
| To be reviewed: March 2021 | Signed: On behalf of the Out of School Club Committee |