

Anti-Bullying Advice for Parents



*Working together,
we succeed*

Our aims:

At Crookhill, we aim to create and provide a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our members so they can learn, grow and flourish in a secure and supportive atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school and will not be tolerated. Any member of the Crookhill community: pupil, employee, parent, carer or volunteer, has the right to learn, work and visit without the fear of being bullied. If bullying does occur, all incidents will be dealt with sensitively, promptly and effectively with the full co-operation of the school.

What is bullying?

According to the Anti Bullying Alliance, Bullying is "The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. Bullying can be physical, verbal or psychological. It can happen face-to-face or online."

We understand that children can have disagreements and can fall out with friends for a time. This is not usually described as bullying and these incidents will be dealt with appropriately and in line with our behaviour policy.

Bullying can be described in different categories:

Physical - pushing, poking, kicking, hitting, biting, pinching etc.

Verbal - name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, threats, teasing, belittling.

Emotional - isolating others, tormenting, hiding books, threatening gestures, ridicule, humiliation, intimidating, excluding, manipulation and coercion.

Online /cyber - posting on social media, emails, texts, sharing photos, sending nasty messages, making threats, social exclusion, sending offensive or degrading images

What should I do if my child is being bullied?

- ◇ *Make sure your child is not afraid to ask for help*
- ◇ *Calmly talk to your child about their experience*
- ◇ *Consider whether what your child is describing is bullying*
- ◇ *Make a note of what your child says - it is important to record as much detail as possible straight after the incident as it is easy to get confused, upset or forget the sequence of events.*
- ◇ *Reassure your child that you will be working with the staff at the school to ensure that the bullying stops without making the situation worse for them.*
- ◇ *Inform the school*

All allegations of bullying are taken seriously and dealt with immediately.

How does the school address bullying?

- ⇒ If bullying is suspected or reported, the incident will be dealt with immediately
- ⇒ The school will provide appropriate support for the person being bullied - ensuring they are not at risk of immediate harm and will involve them in any decision making - ensuring they are comfortable with decisions throughout
- ⇒ The Designated Safeguard Lead (DSL—Miss McCormack, deputy DSLs Mrs Smith, Mrs Kelly) will be informed of all bullying issues where there are safeguarding concerns.
- ⇒ A member of the leadership team (Miss McCormack, Mrs Kelly, Mrs Smith) will interview all parties involved
- ⇒ All staff will be informed where this is appropriate
- ⇒ School will ensure that all parents/carers are kept well informed about the concern and action taken, as appropriate and in line with child protection and confidentiality policies and procedures
- ⇒ Consequences and support will be implemented with all concerned parties
- ⇒ If necessary, other agencies will be consulted/involved such as the police, if a criminal offence has been committed, or other local services including early help or children's social care, if a child is felt to be at risk of harm
- ⇒ Where the bullying of pupils takes place away from school, outside of school hours (including cyberbullying), the school will support and offer advice
- ⇒ If required, the DSL will collaborate with other schools and professionals, including the police, to ensure the matter is swiftly resolved.
- ⇒ A clear and precise account of bullying incidents will be recorded by the school in accordance with existing procedures. This will include recording appropriate details regarding decisions and action taken.

Is your child bullying others?

Children sometimes bully others because they do not know that it is wrong, or they are copying an older sibling or even adult behaviour. They may be going through difficult times or are frightened and have low self-esteem themselves. If you are worried about this then school can be there to support you and your family. It is better to work together to address any concerns you have about bullying behaviour.

Useful Contacts:

Crookhill Primary School:

*Address: Crookhill Primary School
Hexham Old Road,
Gateshead,
NE40 3ES*

Telephone: 0191 4334066

Website: www.crookhillprimary.org

Childline:

*Address: NSPCC Weston House,
42 Curtain Road,
London,
EC2A 3NH*

Telephone: 0800 1111 (free)

Website: www.childline.org.uk

Kidscape:

*Address: 2 Grosvenor Gardens
London
SW1W 0DH*

Telephone: 020 7730 3300

Website: www.kidscape.org.uk

Young Minds:

*Address: 45 Curlew Street
London
SE1 2ND*

Telephone: 020 7089 5050

Website: www.youngminds.org.uk

Anti Bullying Alliance:

*Address: National Children's Centre Bureau
23 Mentmore Terrace
London
E8 3PN*

Email: aba@ncb.org.uk