

Anti- bullying Policy

LTC Eastbourne welcomes students from all backgrounds and will not permit discrimination by students or staff on the grounds of either religion, gender, sexual orientation, or ethnicity. In addition, even greater sensitivity will be shown to students who are arriving in the UK from territories currently in the midst of internal or international conflict. LTC Eastbourne is committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our students so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere.

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. If bullying does occur, all students should be able to tell staff and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. Anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell us. LTC has a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

What Is Bullying? Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim. Bullying can be:

- Emotional being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures)
- Physical pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Racist racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Sexual unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
- Homophobic because of, or focusing on the issue of sexuality
- Transphobic because of, or focusing on the issue of sexuality
- Verbal name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- Cyber All areas of internet ,such as email & internet chat room misuse
Mobile threats by text messaging & calls
Misuse of associated technology , i.e. camera & video facilities

Bullying will never be tolerated at LTC Eastbourne

- All teaching and non-teaching staff and students should have an understanding of what bullying is
- All teaching and non-teaching staff should know what the LTC policy is on bullying, and follow our policy and procedures when bullying/harassment is reported. Every report of bullying must be treated seriously
- All students should know what the school policy is on bullying, that we will not accept it and what they should do if bullying arises.
- Bullying will be dealt with immediately within our discipline procedure

Signs and Symptoms

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that he or she is being bullied.

- is frightened of walking to or from school
- doesn't want to go on a coach/bus
- asks to be driven to school
- changes their usual routine
- is unwilling to come to school
- begins to miss classes
- becomes withdrawn anxious, or lacking in confidence
- attempts or threatens suicide or runs away
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- feels ill in the morning
- begins to do poor school work
- has clothes torn or books damaged
- has possession which are damaged or "go missing"
- loses money continually
- starts stealing money (to pay bully)
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- is bullying other children
- stops eating
- is frightened to say what's wrong
- gives improbable excuses
- is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone
- is nervous & jumpy when a cyber message is received

These signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated

Procedures

Procedures will follow normal discipline procedures. However LTC must also ensure the victim receives all the support necessary

1. Report bullying incidents to relevant staff
2. If the child is residential or sharing homestay with the bully, move them if necessary
3. In cases of serious bullying, the incidents to be recorded by staff
4. In serious cases, parents will be informed and will be asked to respond
5. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly
6. An attempt will be made to help the bully/bullies change their behaviour
7. If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted

Outcomes

1. The bully/bullies may be asked to genuinely apologise. Other disciplinary consequences may take place and disciplinary procedures will be followed
2. If possible, the pupils will be reconciled
3. After the incident / incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.

Prevention

As and when appropriate, this may include:

- telling students on day one, bullying will not be tolerated
- writing a set of class rules
- signing a behaviour contract
- doing class work related to bullying
- spreading information for students on noticeboards
- having class discussions about bullying and why it matters
- having children compile a survey on bullying

Used with policy guidelines from YLEUK

HELP ORGANISATIONS:

Advisory Centre for Education (ACE)	0808 800 5793
Children's Legal Centre	0845 345 4345
Parentline Plus	0808 800 2222
Youth Access	020 8772 9900
Bullying Online	www.bullying.co.uk