



SENSES Learning Hub

Anti Bullying Policy

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Dawn Oughtibridge (Director)

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John Fox (Director)

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We are 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 not tolerated at Senses Learning Hub. If bullying does occur, all students are encouraged to report incidents to a trusted adult and it will be dealt with promptly and effectively. This means that *anyone* who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell a member of staff.

What is Bullying?

Bullying is defined by the Department for Education as 'behaviour by an individual or group, usually repeated over time, which intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally'

Bullying can be, but not exclusive to:

- 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, sexually abusive comment or upskirting
- Homophobic: Unfriendly, hurtful or excluding behavior due to someone's sexuality.
- Verbal: Name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumors, teasing
- Cyber: Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place using technology. Whether on social media sites, through a mobile phone, or gaming sites, the effects can be devastating for the young person involved.



Signs of bullying


A student may indicate by signs or behaviour that they are being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and that they should investigate if a student:

- Doesn't want to be driven or unwilling to come to Senses Learning Hub
- Becomes withdrawn, anxious or lacking in confidence
- Attempts or threatens forms of self harm
- Sudden emotional outbursts
- Feels ill in the morning
- Regresses academically
- Comes home with clothes torn or books damaged
- Has possessions which are damaged or "go missing"
- Becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- Is bullying other children or siblings
- Stops eating
- Is frightened to say what's wrong
- Gives improbable excuses for any of the above
- Increased time on social media/devices

These signs and behaviours are not always exclusive to bullying but it is important to consider bullying as a possibility.

Procedures

1. Report bullying incidents to staff immediately
2. Incidents of bullying will be recorded by staff
3. In some cases parents/carers will be informed and possibly asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem

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4. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying will be investigated and the bullying should therefore stop immediately
 5. If necessary and parents/carers of the child who has fallen victim to bullying may deem it appropriate to contact the police
 6. An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour

Outcomes

1. The bully (bullies) will be asked to apologise in a restorative conversation
2. Parent/carer meetings
3. In serious cases, Senses Learning Hub has the right to consider suspension or even removal from the provision
4. After the incident/incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place again
5. Senses Learning Hub has the right to offer an alternative day a child may access the provision if bullying occurs

Prevention

1. Talk the issue through with the young person
2. Creating targets for the young person
3. Signing a behaviour contract
4. Writing stories or poems or drawing pictures about bullying
5. Reading stories about bullying or having them read to the class
6. Making up role-plays
7. Having discussions about bullying and why it matters



Anti Bullying Organisations and helplines for children and parents/carers

Young Minds - <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/coping-with-life/bullying/>

Kidscape - <https://www.kidscape.org.uk/advice/advice-for-young-people>

Childline - <https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/types-bullying/>

Bullying UK (Family Lives) - <https://www.familylives.org.uk/advice/bullying>