



Bunscoil Ghaelgagh

Anti-Bullying Policy

We want all members of our community to have a positive experience of Bunscoil Ghaelgagh. We will promote positive relationships and behaviours amongst all children and young people and adults around them.

- We will work together to develop a culture of mutual respect and responsibility amongst all children and young people and adults around them
- We will address different aspects of prejudice in order to make sure prejudice based bullying is recognised and treated with appropriate importance
- We will support effective communication, including sharing relevant and proportionate information, where appropriate, in accordance with GDPR
- We will seek to understand the experiences, and address the needs of children and young people, who are bullied as well as those who bully
- We recognise bullying can have a damaging effect on development and we will try to ensure that every member of our community has an equal chance to succeed.

What is bullying?

Bullying behaviour can harm people physically or emotionally and, although the actual behaviour may not be repeated, the threat may be sustained over time, typically by actions, looks, messages, confrontations, physical interventions, or the fear of these.

Bullying behaviour can include:

- Being called names, teased, put down or threatened face to face/online
- Being hit, tripped, pushed or kicked
- Having belongings taken or damaged
- Being ignored, left out or having rumours spread about you (face-to-face and/or online)
- Sending abusive messages, pictures or images on social media, online gaming platforms or phone
- Behaviour which makes people feel like they are not in control of themselves or their lives (face-to-face and/or online)
- Being targeted because of who you are or who you are perceived to be (face to face and/or online).

Action

When an incident of bullying has been observed by or communicated to a staff member, they should make a note of this. All parties involved should be spoken to, so that an assessment can be made about the motivation, antecedents and consequences of the behaviour.

Initially we will support and comfort the victim. In order to move forward we will involve the pupil(s) responsible for the bullying behaviour in discussions which allow them to explain the feelings behind the behaviour and to appreciate the impact of their behaviour on the victim. These discussions may also be shared with the wider school community to raise issues of collective responsibility and supporting their peers.

If the problem continues then it will be raised with other parties including parents/care-givers and, where appropriate other services. All members of staff will be informed of the issues and asked to look out for bullying behaviour in other lessons and break time.