

Anti Bullying

What is bullying?

We define bullying as behaviour by an individual or a group, usually repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally.

Forms of bullying include:

Name-calling, taunting, racist remarks, making offensive comments, hitting, kicking, taking belongings, inappropriate text messaging and emailing, sending offensive or degrading images by phone or via the internet, producing offensive graffiti, gossiping, excluding people from groups, spreading hurtful and untruthful rumours, peer on peer abuse. Where bullying takes place out of school but affects people within school, the school has a right to investigate this matter.

In our school.

St Augustine's recognises that bullying is a reality in society but strives, by example and support, to eradicate it in all forms within our school and to develop in our pupils an appreciation of the value of working to extend this to their wider community. Pupils are encouraged to value each person as a unique creation of God. This philosophy will be reinforced through our daily practices and our school assemblies. By encouraging our pupils to respect, understand and appreciate human diversity we hope to nurture those profoundly important values which lie at the heart of a tolerant and civilised society. All pupils will also undertake work which focuses on bullying issues and it will be made clear that actions and language that are aggressive, offensive, sexist, racist or based on any differences (prejudice-based), are unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

Our school response.

We try to tackle bullying whenever it surfaces so that our children can feel safe. Our staff are around and about on corridors, stairwells and in the playground acting promptly and firmly whenever problems arise. As a result most of our pupils thankfully experience little, if any, bullying. Many of our older pupils have been trained as "mentors" and help to keep a protective eye on the younger pupils to whom they have individually been assigned. We want our pupils to feel secure in a community which encourages them to speak up against bullying and where they know they'll be properly protected afterwards.

If someone is being really unkind to you or you are being bullied, you must tell someone. Report this to a member of staff or ask a friend to do this for you. You can also report this online where you see this on the homepage of our website.

