Ysgol Tanyfron



**Anti Bullying Policy**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date reviewed and updated: | 8th November 2022 (Autumn term 2) |
| Signed By Chair of Governors: |  |
| Signed By Headteacher: |  |
| Date Approved: | 22nd November 2022 |
| Document to be next reviewed: | Autumn Term 2025-26 |

**Anti-Bullying Policy**

We would wish to create in Ysgol Tanyfron a happy, caring and secure environment where every child is valued and where teachers and parents/guardians work as partners to enhance the child's personal, social, spiritual and educational development. We would hope to encourage the children to become responsible, caring members of society. However, Ysgol Tanyfron acknowledges that bullying can occur and believes that by establishing an effective anti-bullying policy it can be resolved quickly and successfully, so that both victim and bully can enjoy and fully access all the learning experiences that are provided.

**Aims of this policy.**

1) To define bullying and the signs that can manifest in our children.

2) To provide a consistent whole school approach when an incidence of bullying is reported to any member of staff.

3) To reduce the frequency of bullying by making it clear to all what is expected and any sanctions that will be issued.

4) To create an environment where all children have confidence and feel safe.

5) To ensure early intervention.

**What is Bullying? – A Definition**

Bullying is typically:

* Premeditated and deliberate
* Carried out by an individual or group
* Behaviour designed to cause hurt
* Unprovoked and repeated over time
* Delivered from a perceived position of power
* Physical and or psychological hurt of the victim(s).

**Types of Bullying? – A Definition**

**Verbal Bullying:** Calling names, teasing, taunting, threatening, insulting and making offensive remarks [including sexist homophobic and racist comments] are all included in this type of bullying.

**Physical Bullying:** Pushing, punching, kicking, spitting, fighting, stealing and sexual assault can result in physical bullying.

**Indirect Bullying:** Intimidation, dirty looks, rumour spreading, breaking friends, isolating individuals, publicly writing, or displaying literature about a person.

**Cyber Bullying:** Cyberbullying is an aggressive, intentional act carried out by a group or individuals using electronic forms of contact repeatedly over time against a victim who cannot easily defend themselves.

Cyber Bullying is an increasing and more recent problem and is particularly difficult to address. The potential audience for cyberbullying is huge. Several types of cyberbullying have been identified:

**Text message -** bullying involves sending unwanted texts that threaten or are hurtful. This is one of the most common forms of cyberbullying and is now a criminal offence.

**E-mail -** bullying involves sending threatening messages often under a false name or using someone else’s name on which to pin the blame.

**Chat-room -** bullying involves sending menacing or upsetting responses to children when they are in a web-based chat room.

Bullying via websites includes the use of defamatory web logs [blogs], personal websites and online personal polling sites. There has also been a significant increase in social networking sites for young people such as My Space, Facebook and Bebo, which provide further opportunities for cyberbullying.

Traditionally Bullying in schools can be manifested in a variety of ways such as:

* Demanding money or property and making threats e.g. blackmail or damage to property.
* Verbal name calling e.g. saying horrible things about people’s family, clothes, appearance, gender, race, religion or culture, sexual orientation and disability.
* Spreading rumours, teasing, dirty looks, and social exclusion
* Incessant hurting e.g. kicking, hair pulling, pushing and hitting.
* Entrapment e.g. coercing the victim into acts which they do not wish to take part in.

Bullying can find expression through the actual or perceived differences between individuals or groups, for example:

* Physical and academic ability or performance
* Race, gender and social class
* Friendship groups and club or team membership

Some of the symptoms and signs to watch out for and investigate further as possibilities of bullying:

* Children who do not want to go out to play.
* Children who stay close to adults during unstructured times in the school day.
* Children who continually, lose their dinner money or possessions.
* Children who cry themselves to sleep at night or have regular nightmares.
* Children who come home with clothes or possessions damaged.
* Children who begin to do poorly in school work.
* Children who have more money than most.
* Children who have frequent absences due to unwillingness to attend school (School phobia).
* Children who appear unhappy, isolated or anxious.
* Children with unexplained cuts or bruises.
* Children who are frightened to say what is wrong.
* Children who come home starving.
* Children who become aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable.

The above is a list of suggestions. Not all symptoms of bullying will be manifested in these ways as all children are different and any change in behaviour should be noted and investigated fully.

**Education**

Ysgol Tanyfron believes that by dedicating time to focus on bullying and the issues that surround it during our Personal and Social Education lessons will allow the children to talk in an open atmosphere and discuss the use of hypothetical situations and any concerns they may have. Class teachers will also use Circle Time to create a safe space to explore any issues of concern that may be affecting one or more pupils within the class. By creating this open atmosphere where feelings can be discussed, the children will gain confidence and be able to seek the help of an adult or a peer quickly when the need arises. The School Council meets regularly and monitor the incidences of bullying in Ysgol Tanyfron.

Where possible the School Council has used opportunities an Anti-Bullying Week, Health & Wellbeing week and Safer Internet Day to focus their work on this important issue.

Examples of work that can/have been completed on this topic are:

* Raps or poems
* Stories
* Hot-Seating
* Bullying Survey
* Databases and Graphs
* Posters

The School Council has also worked together to create ‘Anti Bullying - a Pupils’ Guide’. This booklet has been written by the children and handed out to each class so that everyone in Ysgol Tanyfron knows how serious and traumatic an incidence of bullying is and also steps that the staff will take to resolve this issue.

**Staff Training**

Staff are provided with training and are aware of the school’s Anti-Bullying Policy. This policy and the procedure for dealing with or reporting a case of bullying will be shared with all staff regularly. There is not only an open-door policy for the children, this also applies to the staff who are encouraged to share any concerns with each other, as well as the Senior Leadership Team, in order to make sure that everybody in Ysgol Tanyfron remains both happy and healthy.

**Role of Parents/Guardians**

1. Parents/Guardians should contact the school if they suspect their child is being bullied. Class teachers are available for parents/guardians to come in and discuss the problem before the start of the school day or alternatively at the end of the school day. Parents can also contact school via class SEESAW and/or by phone on 01978 758118.

2. Parents/Guardians are asked to encourage their child/children to be friendly and tolerant of other children and to remind them to treat others, as they would wish to be treated.

3. Parents/Guardians support the school in the implementation of its Anti-Bullying Policy.

4. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to discuss any techniques or solutions they have with their child/children about how to reduce bullying.

**Procedures - Who to tell:**

1) Any member of staff. Ysgol Tanyfron operates an open-door policy where all teachers are willing to listen to any problems a child may have and offer a solution if possible.

2) Parents who are concerned about their child/children are encouraged to contact school to discuss their worries or concerns.

**Procedure for staff to follow:**

* Meet with the pupil affected by bullying.
* Discuss the problem, give reassurance, offer advice, record details or inform a member of the Senior Leadership Team.
* Meet with the pupil who has bullied another pupil.
* Discuss the behaviour and the effect of that behaviour on others involved, provide suggestions to help change the negative behaviour into positive behaviour
* Contact parents/guardians if necessary.
* Monitor the behaviour closely.

It is made clear at all times that bullying is unacceptable in Ysgol Tanyfron. Anybody taking part in bullying type behaviour will be spoken to in accordance with the School Behaviour Policy.

**Monitoring**

The senior leadership team, Health & Wellbeing AOLE lead and the school council will monitor this policy. In order to do this, regular reminders about this policy will be given. To make sure that this policy remains effective the views of the staff will be sought as well as the views of the pupils through School Council meetings.

This Policy has been equality impact assessed and is compliant with the Equality Act 2010.