



BURSCOUGH PRIORY SCIENCE COLLEGE



POLICY STATEMENT - ANTI-BULLYING

Rationale

Every student has the right to be safe and happy in school, and to be protected when they feel vulnerable. Bullying is always unacceptable, because it is a conscious desire to make others feel threatened. Bullying is defined as deliberately hurtful behaviour which is repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those who are being bullied to defend themselves.

Purposes

1. To allow every student to feel happy and secure in Priory.
2. To deal effectively with any reported incident.
3. To encourage students to share their fears.
4. To enable students to overcome their fears.
5. To provide opportunities for students to seek help to resolve their problems. Bullies must be helped to take responsibility so that their behaviour may be modified.

Guidelines

1. Bullying is the wilful, conscious desire to hurt, threaten or frighten someone, or make a person feel insecure.
2. Bullying can take 3 main forms - physical, verbal and emotional. Cyber bullying is becoming an increasingly common form of bullying.
3. People who are being bullied may show changes in behaviour.
4. Students should be encouraged to 'Tell Someone' - this is our anti-bullying motto.
5. The procedure of resolution must involve the bully being made aware of the unacceptability of the action. Both parties need guidance and counselling.
6. Parents need to be informed of any incidents.
7. Sanctions must follow repeated bullying.
8. Any parental enquiry must be investigated.
9. Staff must be vigilant at all times and be prepared to inform the relevant Form Tutor, Head of Year and/or Assistant Headteacher: Year Teams.
10. The Life Studies curriculum includes a section on bullying which outlines the main features and concerns.

Conclusion

This policy should be read in conjunction with the acceptable use of Internet policy and the relevant parts of the Life Studies syllabus. All staff have a responsibility to ensure that bullying is not a feature of life at Priory. This policy needs to be reviewed annually.