

# Leek High School

## Anti-Bullying Policy



### Introduction

At Leek High School we are committed to providing a caring, supportive and safe environment for all of our students and their families. We have a zero tolerance policy on bullying of any kind. If bullying does occur, all students should feel comfortable to tell an adult and know that the incident will be dealt with quickly and effectively. Anyone who knows of any bullying occurring is expected to inform a member of staff.

- Everyone has the right to feel welcome, safe and happy
- Bullying of any kind is unacceptable in our school
- We respect everyone regardless of their; faith, religion, race, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, class, ethnicity, disability or age.

### What is bullying?

Bullying is behaviour by an individual or group repeated over time that intentionally hurts another individual or groups either physically or emotionally. Bullying includes:

- Cyber bullying – via the internet or any messaging service
- Prejudice against race, ethnicity, religion, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, class, sex or disability
- Physical and emotional impact upon another person(s)

### Signs and symptoms of bullying

The young person may:

- Be frightened of walking to / from school
- Not want to use school or public transport
- Be unwilling to go to school / feel ill regularly
- Make changes to their usual routine
- Become withdrawn, nervous or anxious
- Make threats of suicide or to run away
- Cry themselves to sleep at night or suffer from nightmares
- Become aggressive, abusive or disruptive
- Be afraid to use the internet or mobile phone / become nervous using when a parent or adult is in the room
- Have unexplained cuts or bruises
- Begin suffering academically

### Preventing and monitoring bullying

We believe it is the responsibility of everyone to report incidents of bullying. We encourage young people to take responsibility for their actions and do not accept "it was only a joke" as an acceptable response to reported incidents of bullying

We incorporate themes of respect, inclusion, acceptance and understanding throughout our curriculum. We teach our students how to stay safe online and when using mobile phones.

Our staff will always challenge students regarding inappropriate behaviour and language (including sexist, racist, biphobic, homophobic and transphobic language) towards others.

We encourage our students to take a positive stance against bullying by respecting others and always reporting an incident or concern to an adult.

A full bullying / incident report form will be completed for any concerns or incidents of bullying.

**Helplines**

The Anti-Bullying Alliance	<a href="http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk">www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk</a>
Kidscape	<a href="http://www.kidscape.org.uk">www.kidscape.org.uk</a>
Stonewall	<a href="http://www.stonewall.org.uk">www.stonewall.org.uk</a>
ChildLine	<a href="http://www.childline.org">www.childline.org</a>
Cyberbullying	<a href="http://www.cyberbullying.org">www.cyberbullying.org</a>
Bullying UK	<a href="http://www.bullying.co.uk">www.bullying.co.uk</a>
NSPCC	<a href="http://www.nspcc.org.uk">www.nspcc.org.uk</a>

**Approval and review**

_____	Headteacher	Date: _____
_____	Chair of governors	Date: _____

POLICY REVIEW DATE: October 2021