

POLICY ON BULLYING

It would be foolish for any school to declare that it was entirely free of bullies; we do, however, have a clear code of conduct to which reference is made when incidents of bullying come to light. It is set out below.

We at Diss High School expect good behaviour from all our pupils and will not tolerate bullying of any kind. It is our aim to deal positively with both victims and bullies, so that we can create a safe and positive environment for learning. The School encourages a climate of openness where pupils can safely confide in members of staff and other students if they, or their friends, are being bullied.

Everyone has the right to a safe and secure school environment where they will be protected from bullies during the whole of the school day. No one person has the right to bully another. Bullying might take place before or after school, in lessons, during breaks and lunchtimes and on the school buses.

We consider the following types of behaviour to be bullying, all of which are unacceptable:

- physical - deliberately pushing, hitting or hurting another person.

- verbal - saying or shouting unpleasant things to other people knowing that what you are doing will hurt them. This includes starting nasty rumours about people.

- gestures - making aggressive or unpleasant things to other people knowing that what you are doing will hurt them. This includes starting nasty rumours about people.

- extortion - forcing people to part with their belongings or making them hand over money.

- exclusion - excluding people from group activities with the intention of hurting them or making them unhappy.

- cyber - sending unpleasant messages by electronic means e.g. mobile phone or the internet.

Statement of What Should Happen to Bullies

Stage 1

The first incident of bullying should be reported to the Head of Year.

- ❖ Discussion of problem with bully.
- ❖ At the Head of Year's discretion – some free time should be removed.
- ❖ Bully warned that parents will be contacted and a permanent warning will be put on file if this type of behaviour occurs again.

Stage 2

If bullying continues, report to Senior Management Team:

Mr Brinkley (Main School)

Mr Budds (Sixth Form)

- ❖ A letter will go home to parents.
- ❖ After-school detention.
- ❖ Pupil will report throughout the day to members of staff.
- ❖ A permanent record will be put on file.

Stage 3

If bullying continues, report to Headteacher:

- ❖ Parents will be asked to come up to school.
- ❖ Exclusion will be discussed.

Stage 4

If bullying continues:

- ❖ Pupil will be excluded.

Serious cases:

Demanding money or possessions with threats.

Deliberate physical harm.

- ❖ Four stages will be gone through very quickly and permanent exclusion will be an option.

**At all times discussion and counselling will be available for both
victims and bullies**

**Policy on Bullying
Reviewed Annually**