Anti-Bullying Policy (Kindness & Respect)

Falmouth School



Approved by:	J Price	Date: 23/3/25
Last reviewed on:	March 2025	
Next review due by:	March 2026	

Equality Impact Assessment - Policy Review

In reviewing this policy, we have made a positive impact on equality by considering and reducing or removing inequalities and barriers. We have ensured that this policy does not negatively impact the dimensions of equality.

Contents

- 1. Aim
- 2. Scope
- 3. Definitions
- 4. Who is affected?
- 5. Identification
- 6. Responding
- 7. Preventative Measures
- 8. Parental Involvement
- 9. Monitoring and Review
- 10. Key Resources

1. Aim

At Falmouth School, we take great pride in our culture of respect, kindness, and exceptional behaviour. Students and staff are highly motivated, collaborative, mutually respectful, and make a tangible positive contribution to the school and wider community. When students or staff encounter challenges, we take intelligent, fair, and highly effective action to build resilience and support future success.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- Negative behaviour of students by students within school
- Negative behaviour by students outside of school, where the school is aware
- Negative behaviour of staff by students, inside or outside of school Allegations about bullying of students by staff will be dealt with under the Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy.

This policy links to the following school policies and procedures:

- Behaviour Policy
- Equality Policy
- Acceptable Use of IT Policy
- Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy
- Complaints Policy
- SEN Policy and Information Report

3. Definition of Bullying

Bullying occurs when an individual or group, over a period of time, deliberately denies the dignity of another individual or group through words, actions, or gestures. This may involve:

- Causing physical or emotional harm
- Making someone feel unsafe or frightened
- Affecting academic performance or wellbeing
- Social exclusion or humiliation

Bullying can take many forms, including:

Type of Bullying	Examples
Physical	Hitting, kicking, pushing, damaging belongings
Verbal	Name-calling, threats, offensive comments
Relational	Spreading rumors, exclusion, gossiping
Cyberbullying	Harassment via social media, messaging apps, emails
Indirect	Graffiti, displaying inappropriate material (e.g. racist, sexist, homophobic content

4. Who is Affected by Bullying?

Anyone can be a victim or perpetrator of bullying. Bullying often arises due to perceived differences in:

- Physical appearance
- Social background or identity
- Disability, race, gender, religion, or sexual orientation
- Interests, hobbies, or academic abilities

Self-esteem and status perception are key factors in bullying behaviour. Therefore, inclusion and equal opportunities are central to our anti-bullying strategy.

5. Identifying & Reporting Concerns About Bullying

All concerns about bullying will be taken seriously and investigated thoroughly. Staff, students, and parents should be aware of the signs of bullying, such as:

- Changes in behaviour (e.g. withdrawal, anxiety, school avoidance)
- Unexplained injuries or damage to belongings
- Loss of concentration or declining academic performance
- Avoidance of social situations

Reporting Bullying

Reporting Method	Link / Action
COC Student Incident Form (for behaviour-related issues)	Student Incident Form (COC Form)
Safeguarding Concern (if bullying involves significant distress or harm)	MyConcern Login
School Behaviour Policy (for disciplinary responses)	Falmouth School Behaviour Policy

6. Responding to Reports of Bullying

Investigation & Action

Once a report is made, Falmouth School follows these steps:

- 1. Investigation The Wellbeing Team or a Senior Member of Staff will investigate and gather statements.
- 2. Action Plan Interventions or sanctions are applied based on the Behaviour Policy.
- 3. Support for the Victim Pastoral support, mentoring, and counselling may be offered.
- 4. Support for the Perpetrator Behavioural interventions to address underlying causes.
- 5. Monitoring & Follow-up Staff will ensure the situation is fully resolved.

Consequences & Interventions

Disciplinary actions will depend on the severity and context of the incident. Possible outcomes include:

Level of Response	Examples of Actions Taken	
Low-Level Incidents	Restorative conversations, verbal warnings	
Moderate Incidents	Detentions, parental meetings, behaviour monitoring	

Where appropriate, Restorative Justice (RJ) approaches will be used to help

students understand the impact of their actions and repair relationships.

Severe Incidents Internal or external exclusion, permanent exclusion

7. Preventative Measures

Falmouth School actively works to prevent bullying through:

- PSHE lessons and assemblies promoting respect and inclusion
- Peer mentoring programmes
- Staff training on recognising and addressing bullying
- Engagement with external organisations (e.g. NSPCC, Anti-Bullying Alliance)
- Participation in national initiatives such as Anti-Bullying Week

8. Parental Involvement

- Parents are encouraged to report concerns via the COC Form or by contacting the Wellbeing Team.
- If bullying occurs outside of school, parents may choose to contact the police directly.
- Parents should not attempt to resolve bullying directly with other students or families, as this can escalate conflicts.

Supporting Your Child

Parents can support their children by:

- Encouraging open communication about bullying experiences
- Teaching digital resilience (e.g. blocking on social media, reporting abuse)
- Seeking support from external agencies when necessary

9. Monitoring & Review

- Bullying reports will be logged via MyConcern or COC Forms for tracking.
- Termly reviews will assess bullying trends and refine policies.
- The Deputy Headteacher and Wellbeing Team will review this policy annually.

10. Key Resources & Support

Resource	Link
Report a Behaviour Incident	Student Incident Form (COC Form)
Report a Safeguarding Concern	MyConcern Login
School Behaviour Policy	Falmouth School Behaviour Policy
Anti-Bullying Alliance	www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk
Childline	www.childline.org.uk

Appendix A

Sources of support or information Childline: www.childline.org.uk NSPCC: www.nspcc.org.uk

Anti-bullying alliance: www.antibullyingalliance.org.uk

Family Lives: www.familylives.org.uk Kidscape: www.kidscape.org.uk MindEd: www.minded.org.uk

The BIG Award: www.bullyinginterventiongroup.co.uk/index.php

PSHE Association: www.pshe-association.org.uk

Restorative Justice Council: <u>www.restorativejustice.org.uk</u>

The Diana Award: www.diana-award.org.uk
Victim Support: www.victimsupport.org.uk
Young Minds: www.youngminds.org.uk
Young Carers: www.youngcarers.net

The Restorative Justice Council: www.restorativejustice.org.uk/restorative-

<u>practiceschools</u> Cyberbullying

Childnet: www.childnet.com

Internet Watch Foundation: www.iwf.org.uk
Think U Know: www.thinkuknow.co.uk

UK Safer Internet Centre: www.saferinternet.org.uk

The UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS) www.gov.uk/government/groups/uk-council-for-child-

internet-safety-ukccis

DfE 'Cyberbullying: advice for headteachers and school staff': www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-and-tackling-bullying

DfE 'Advice for parents and carers on cyberbullying': www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-and-tackling-bullying

Race, religion and nationality

Anne Frank Trust: www.annefrank.org.uk

Kick it Out: www.kickitout.org
Report it: www.report-it.org.uk
Stop Hate: www.stophateuk.org
Tell Mama: www.tellmamauk.org

Educate against Hate: www.educateagainsthate.com Show Racism the Red Card: www.srtrc.org/educational

LGBT

Barnardo's LGBT Hub: www.barnardos.org.uk/what we do/our work/labtg.htm

Metro Charity: www.metrocentreonline.org

EACH: www.eachaction.org.uk
Proud Trust: www.theproudtrust.org
Schools Out: www.schools-out.org.uk
Stonewall: www.stonewall.org.uk

Note: Additional links can be found in 'Preventing and Tackling Bullying' (July 2017) www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-and-tackling-bullying