



Policy: Anti-Bullying

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Policy Approved By: SCITT Strategic Board

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(circumstances may require an earlier review)

Signed-off by: **Strategic Board Chair:** _____
Andrew Cummings

Date: 04.07.2017

“Everyone is an insider, there are no outsiders – whatever their beliefs, whatever their colour, gender or sexuality” – Archbishop Desmond Tutu, 25 February 2004

**Trainees must also have regard for the placement school’s Anti-Bullying policy
Allegations relating to any Trainee or member of Staff will be covered under the procedures in the Fitness to Teach policy.**

1. Rationale

Every member of the community of Red Kite Teacher Training has the right to be in a secure and caring environment in order to realise his or her true potential in all aspects of their work and training, free from humiliation, intimidation and abuse. They also have the responsibility to contribute, in whatever way they can to the protection and maintenance of such an environment. Red Kite Teacher Training does not tolerate bullying and all incidents are taken seriously. Sanctions could include exclusion from the course.

2. The Ethos of Red Kite Teacher Training

Within the school community we aim, through our commitment and responsiveness, to provide opportunities for all Trainees to fulfil their potential as individuals. To achieve this, we are strongly committed to creating an atmosphere of tolerance and mutual respect in which students take on responsibilities which encourage growth and development.

3. The Aims of the Anti-Bullying Policy

- 3.1 Give clear guidelines to employees and Trainees
- 3.2 Create a climate of openness and support
- 3.3 Enable teachers to maintain a consistent approach to bullying
- 3.4 Demonstrate that as an organisation we will not tolerate bullying

4. What is Bullying?

Bullying is defined as behaviour by an individual or group that hurts another individual or group, either physically or emotionally. Bullying is generally taken to mean any sort of physical or psychological intimidation. It could hurt, threaten or frighten someone and cause distress. There are a number of kinds of bullying. These may be exhibited by an individual student towards another individual, by a group towards an individual or by one group to another. It can include personal, sexual or racial harassment and bullies can frighten so that a person does not want to go to School.

4.1 What does bullying consist of?

In the main it consists of:

- 4.1(a) Physical – hitting, kicking, pushing, spitting, pinching, sexual assault, throwing things, extortion, stealing, hiding or damaging belongings;
- 4.1(b) Verbal – name calling including about appearance, mockery, insulting, making offensive remarks, sexual innuendo, threatening;
- 4.1(c) Indirect – spreading unpleasant stories about someone, exclusion from social groups, being made the subject of malicious rumours, intimidation, graffiti, defacing of property, display of pornographic, classist, disablist, homophobic, racist or sexual material;

4.1(d) Cyber bullying – the use of electronic communication to bully a person, typically by sending messages of an intimidating or threatening nature.

4.2 Who bullies?

Anyone has the capacity to bully. Those who perceive themselves as low status within a community, institution or group may use bullying in an attempt to artificially boost their status. Self-esteem is therefore a key factor in whether someone bullies or not. This puts equal opportunities and inclusion at the centre of all anti-bullying work in schools.

4.3 Who is bullied?

Anyone can be bullied – student, parent/carer/guardian or staff member. People who suffer bullying are often perceived by others to be different. Sometimes the perceived difference is individual to that person – shyness, academic ability, physical appearance, clothing and possessions, accent, perceived inappropriate behaviour. Frequently the perceived difference comes from labelling an individual as part of a group. Such bullying would then be designated as classist, disablist, homophobic, racist and religious, or sexist. People can be a member of more than one group.

4.4 What is classist bullying?

In classist bullying, a person is targeted for representing a perceived class or socioeconomic group. This not only impacts on the individual person, but on their families and others perceived to be from that same group.

4.5 What is disablist bullying?

People with Special Educational Needs or disabled people may be less able or more reluctant to articulate experiences as well as others. However, they are often at greater risk of being bullied, both directly and indirectly, and usually about their specific difficulties or disability.

4.6 What is homophobic bullying?

In homophobic bullying, a person is targeted for being or being perceived as a lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgendered (trans) person. People do not have to be lesbian, gay, bisexual or trans to suffer homophobic bullying. This bullying not only impacts on the individual person, but on their families and others perceived to be from that same group. It may be based on gender stereotyping.

4.7 What is racist and religious bullying?

In racist and religious bullying, a person is targeted for being perceived as being a member of a different ethnic, cultural or religious, group. This bullying not only impacts on the individual person, but on their families and others perceived to be from that same or similar group. Inappropriate assumptions may be made about someone's religion or belief because of their ethnic origin.

4.8 What is sexist bullying?

In sexist bullying, a person is targeted for being of a particular gender. This bullying impacts on the individual person and can influence the views of other students.

4.9 What is cyberbullying?

4.9(a) It can be anonymous

4.9(b) It can affect the target 24 hours a day, every day, as it intrudes into safe and personal spaces

4.9(c) It can spread very quickly and resurface at a later date

4.9(d) It can target students, teachers and other adults

It can take the form of: -

4.9(e) Sending offensive texts/messages by mobile phone or via apps

4.9(f) Picture/video bullying via mobile phone and other device cameras including iPads

4.9(g) Phone call bullying via mobile phone

4.9(h) Email bullying

4.9(i) Chat Room bullying

4.9(j) Bullying via Instant Messaging

4.9(k) Bullying via Websites

4.9(l) Bullying via social networking sites

4.9(m) Bullying via gaming sites (voice over)

4.9(n) Uploading images to the Internet which may cause upset

4.10 Beat the cyberbullies.

4.10(a) Tell an adult you know and trust

4.10(b) Tell the company that provides your MSN account, internet access or mobile phone

4.10(c) Use the “report” or “report abuse” button on individual sites to report inappropriate content

4.10(d) Call the police

4.10(e) Keep any text messages from Cyberbullies

4.10(f) Keep Email and URL (web addresses)

4.10(g) Note dates and times, messages and Emails are received and sent

4.10(h) Save screen-shots from chatrooms

4.10(i) Copy and paste messages from Instant Messenger

4.10(j) Be careful as to who you 'add' or 'accept' as a friend

5. The Responsibilities of all Stakeholders: Staff

- 5.1 Foster in Trainees' self-esteem, self-respect and respect for others.
- 5.2 Demonstrate by example the highest standards of personal and social behaviour we expect of our Trainees.
- 5.3 Watch for early signs of distress in Trainees – deterioration of work, sudden change in attitude, spurious illness, isolation, the desire to remain with adults, often being late for school, low self-esteem, bruises and cuts, avoidance of school/training. All of the above may be symptomatic of other problems but may be early signs of bullying.
- 5.4 Be available and willing to listen. Treat the information seriously.
- 5.5 Follow up any complaint by a parent about bullying, and report back promptly and fully on the action which has been taken.
- 5.6 Record incidents of bullying precisely and be seen to do this.
- 5.7 Offer the victim immediate support and help by putting the school's procedures into operation.
- 5.8 All observed incidents of bullying must be stopped immediately. They must then be dealt with, either immediately or at a later more appropriate time.
- 5.9 Bullying is always wrong – a victim of bullying must not be made to feel guilty because she/he is bullied.
- 5.10 Help Trainees think about strategies to use.
- 5.11 Ensure that Trainees know what to do when they are bullied.
- 5.12 Tell the Trainees from day one that bullying is not tolerated. Everyone is expected to ensure that it does not happen and has the responsibility to tell – this is not telling tales.
- 5.13 Cyberbullying - arrange and oversee the removal of inappropriate content). Providers and/or the police may need to assist with this.
- 5.14 Cyberbullying – be prepared to contact the police regarding any illegal content (including threatening or menacing behaviour).

6. Trainees

- 6.1 Refrain from becoming involved in any kind of bullying, even at the risk of incurring temporary unpopularity.

- 6.2 Tell a member of the RKTT team or any other adult in school you trust if you have witnessed or suspect bullying is taking place.
- 6.3 Tell them again if the bullying does not stop
- 6.4 Talk to your friends about it and say no to the bully
- 6.5 Report instances of cyberbullying which you see or hear about
- 6.8 Do not retaliate or respond to upsetting texts
- 6.9 Keep hurtful texts and other messages
- 6.10 Copy and paste hurtful messages received via MSN, iMessage and social networking sites
- 6.11 Block individuals who upset you
- 6.12 Ensure social networking sites are only accessible to invited friends
- 6.13 Try not to show you are upset, which although difficult, will help discourage the bully
- 6.14 Try to appear confident
- 6.15 Just walk past if people call you unpleasant names
- 6.16 If you feel threatened walk away
- 6.17 Tell yourself you don't deserve to be bullied

7. Important Websites and Organisations Offering Help and Support

If you do not want to speak to someone you know but need help and advice, you can:

- Ring Childline free and confidentially on 0800 1111
- Contact Kidscape on 0845 120 5204

Websites offering help and advice:

- www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk
- www.kidscape.org.uk/
- www.childline.org.uk/
- www.nspcc.org.uk
- www.stoptextbully.com
- www.beyondbullying.com/
- www.bbclic.com/
- www.bullying.co.uk
- www.childnet-int.org
- www.cyberbullying.org
- www.chatdanger.com
- www.thinkuknow.co.uk