

Mission Statement

Ambrosoli is a community minded school that nurtures curiosity, creativity and global awareness through an inspiring, broad and engaging curriculum. Children learn to become resilient and respectful in an environment where each child is challenged and encouraged to thrive and achieve as an individual.

Our Vision

Empowering pupils to become confident compassionate and internationally minded learners.

Policy

The aim of the anti-bullying policy is to ensure that children are able to learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied. Bullying behaviour is contrary to the school ethos; it is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

What is bullying?

Bullying is defined as deliberately hurtful behaviour, repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for the victim to defend themselves. The four main types of bullying are:

- **Physical** (hitting, pushing, kicking, tripping, spitting, hair pulling, throwing things, stealing or damaging someone's property, demanding for money or other items, writing or drawing offensive notes about someone.)
- **Emotional** (spreading rumours, excluding someone from a social group, belittling someone's abilities or achievements, menacing looks or stares, rude signs or gestures.)
- **Verbal** (name calling, insulting or offensive remarks, accusations, ridiculing someone for their appearance, disability, religion, personal mannerisms, race or colour, humiliating someone publicly, threatening someone, mocking, sarcasm.)
- **Cyber** (misuse of emails, images, text, blogs, tweets, chat rooms, forums or messaging to hurt, embarrass, demean, provoke or humiliate someone else, unauthorised publication or manipulation of private information, impersonation.)

What are the signs and symptoms of bullying?

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that they are being bullied. Everyone should be aware of these signs and should investigate if the child:

- Is unwilling to attend school, is frequently late and/or has an erratic attendance record
- Becomes withdrawn, anxious, jumpy, forgetful or lacking in confidence
- Becomes aggressive, abusive, disruptive or unreasonable
- Starts stuttering or biting their nails
- Threatens or attempts to self-harm or run away
- Cries themselves to sleep at night, has nightmares, begins to wet the bed and/or has difficulty sleeping

- Feels ill in the mornings
- Has a negatively changed performance in school work
- Is reluctant to sit next to or work with certain pupils
- Returns home with clothes torn, property damaged or missing
- Asks for money or starts stealing money
- Has unexplained cuts and/or bruises
- Comes home hungry and/or changes their eating habits
- Starts bullying others
- Is frightened to say what is wrong
- Gives improbable excuses for their behaviour.

Procedure

When dealing with bullying behaviour the school aims to:

1. Stop the bullying behaviour.
2. Protect and support the bullied pupil.
3. Change the attitude and behaviour of the bully.

The following steps will be taken once a case of bullying is suspected or reported:

- The incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff who has been approached.
- The report will be taken seriously and steps will be taken to ensure the child feels safe and secure. A clear account of the report should be given to the child's class teacher.
- The class teacher will interview those concerned and if necessary discuss the case with the Deputy Head or Head of School.
- If the bullying behaviour persists the bully's parents will be informed and the child will be given an official warning to cease offending. They may also be put under close supervision during class, break and lunch times and excluded from certain areas of the school premises.

Pupils who have been bullied will be supported by:

- Being offered an opportunity to discuss the experience with the class teacher or a member of staff of their choice as soon as possible.
- Being reassured that the issue will be taken seriously.
- An offer of continuous support for as long as necessary.
- Restoration of their self-esteem and confidence.

Pupils who have bullied will be supported by:

- Discussing what occurred and discovering why they became involved.
- Establishing the wrongdoing and the need to change.
- Making it clear to the child that the school takes bullying seriously and will not tolerate this type of behaviour.
- Building on the child's talents by encouraging him/her to get involved in social activities such as clubs, squads, LAMDA and non-violent sports.
- Informing the parent or guardian so they may support the child in changing their behaviour.

Parents of a child who has been bullied or carried out bullying should:

- Work in partnership with the school to resolve the problem.
- Advise their child to report any concerns to a member of staff.
- Discourage behaviour which may be considered bullying and point out the implications of bullying, both for the child being bullied and the bully themselves.
- Develop clear and consistent rules within their family home for their child's behaviour.
- Spend more time with their child, supervising and monitoring their activities.
- Contact the child's class teacher or the Deputy Head of school to discuss their concerns. If the parent needs additional help they may contact the Head of School.

Within the PSHE curriculum the school will raise awareness of bullying in an attempt to eradicate such behaviour and within the IPC curriculum issues of respect and morality will be discussed. As a school we will recognise and reward good behaviour in children, are vigilant when supervising children, and we promote good parental communication.



Robert Kabushenga

Chair of the BoG on behalf of the BoG