

# Laycock Primary School

## ANTI BULLYING POLICY -

At Laycock primary School bullying is totally unacceptable and we take firm action to investigate and eradicate such behaviour. We encourage children to work against it and want children to tell if they are being bullied, if they know of children who are being bullied or children who are bullying others.

The definition of bullying behaviour is:

*'Bullying is the use of force, threat or coercion to abuse, intimidate, or aggressively dominate others; the process of intimidating or mistreating somebody weaker or in a more vulnerable situation. The behaviour is often repeated and habitual.'*

At Laycock it is our aim to teach children that bullying is wrong and damaging. Our aim is to do all we can to prevent bullying by developing a school ethos in which bullying is unacceptable. We:

- Encourage the caring and nurturing side of children;
- Work for a caring, co-operative ethos;
- Discuss friendships;
- Ensure adequate supervision in the playground, cloakrooms etc.
- Positively encourage caring and discourage bullying.

We know that types of bullying behaviour can include:

- Name calling
- Malicious gossip
- Damage or stealing children's property
- Coercion into acts they do not wish to do
- Violence and assault
- Punching/kicking
- Teasing
- Intimidation
- Extortion
- Ostracising
- Wilful, conscious desire to hurt, threaten and frighten
- Play which deliberately spoil others' activities and may show violence and/or hostility
- Rough, intimidating behaviour

At Laycock we are observant for possible early signs of distress caused by bullying:

- Withdrawn
- Deterioration of work
- Unexplained and regular illnesses
- Isolation
- Desire to remain with adults
- Erratic attendance
- General unhappiness/anxiety/fear
- Late arrival for school
- Bed wetting

Pastoral Support will be put in place for victims of bullying.

Procedures for dealing with complaints about bullying:

Incidents are thoroughly investigated and discussed with those involved, with the details recorded.

Children who bully are made aware of the serious implications of their behaviour. The Positive Behaviour Policy is applied, with reference to the 'Extreme' rule.

Behaviour deemed to be bullying will be subject to fair and consistent consequences, with support put in place for the bully to help ensure repeat behaviour does not occur.

We aim to involve parents and explain the action we have taken and discuss what they can do to reinforce and support.