



ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1. PARENTS' GUIDE TO THE SCHOOL'S ANTI BULLYING POLICY

At St Thomas More we recognise bullying as unpleasant behaviour that involves dominance of one pupil by another. It is often but not necessarily pre-meditated and usually forms a sustained pattern of behaviour rather than being an isolated incident.

Examples of bullying behaviour include: hitting, kicking, teasing, racist or sexist name-calling, telling nasty stories, ignoring people or not letting them take part in games, interfering with property, sending nasty messages through social or other people etc. This also includes cyberbullying- where young people use Facebook, WhatsApp and other social media to harass or victimise others.

All schools experience bullying behaviour by some pupils. However, whilst rare, it is dealt with firmly and efficiently at St Thomas More Catholic School.

HOW WE MAY DEAL WITH THE BULLY

- Ask them to apologise to the victim.
- Keep them in at break, lunch, and/or after school.
- Change seating in a classroom.
- Restricting the area they are allowed to be in during school.
- Giving special work such as work about bullying and how it can hurt.
- Pastoral support programme is initiated.
- Contact parents.
- Exclusion in extreme cases.

HOW WE DEAL WITH THE VICTIM

- Encourage them to come forward to tell us about bullying issues.
- We will listen and investigate what is reported.
- Encourage pupils and parents to contact the Police and support agencies if appropriate.
- Encourage the pupil to reconcile with the bully if appropriate.

HOW WE TRY TO DEAL WITH BULLYING ISSUES AND GENERAL/PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

- Assemblies dealing with bullying issues – Year Heads to use assembly time to reinforce the Anti-Bullying Policy.
- Anti-bullying theatre workshops.
- Creating a 'tell an adult immediately' culture in the School.
- Anti-bullying signage around the School.
- Staff to log all reports of bullying incidents and subsequent investigation.
- Peer mentoring scheme to encourage younger pupils to talk to those more senior.

- Mr Lusardi and Mr Robinson oversee school discipline and are our 'Anti-bullying Tsars'. Both can be emailed via parents@stthomasmoreschool.org.uk Please mark it 'For the Attention of Mr Lusardi and/or Mr Robinson'.