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Company Registration Number: 10745840 (England and Wales)

Evolve Academy

Anti- Bullying policy

June 2023



Nurturing inclusive learning communities



| | | | | | |
|-----------|--|---|------------|---------------------------|------------|
| 1 | Summary | Anti Bullying Policy | | | |
| 2 | Responsible person | Nigel Hall/ Matthew Long | | | |
| 3 | Accountable ELT member | Matthew Long | | | |
| 4 | Applies to | All Staff and pupils | | | |
| 5 | Trustees and/or individuals who have overseen development of this policy | Operation and Compliance Officer | | | |
| 6 | Headteachers/Service Heads who were consulted and have given approval (if applicable) | EAT Safeguarding Network | | | |
| 7 | Equality impact analysis completed | Policy Screened | Y/N | Template completed | Y/N |
| 8 | Ratifying committee(s) and date of final approval | | | | |
| 9 | Version | 2.0 | | | |
| 10 | Available on | Every | Y/N | Trust Website | N |
| | | | | Academy Website | Y |
| | | | | Staff Portal | N |
| 11 | Related documents (if applicable) | Behaviour Policy Safeguarding Policy | | | |
| 12 | Disseminated to | Evolve staff | | | |
| 13 | Date of implementation (when shared) | April 2023 | | | |
| 14 | Date of next formal review | April 2026 | | | |
| 15 | Consulted with Recognised Trade Unions | N/A | | | |
| 16 | Adopted by Ethos Academy Trust following consultation | N/A | | | |

| Date | Version | Action | Summary of changes |
|-------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| July 2023 | 1.2 | Review | Changed onto correct template |

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Aims and Objectives

All pupils within Evolve Academy have the absolute right to be educated in a safe and secure environment and to be protected from anyone who wishes to harm, degrade or abuse them. Evolve Academy has a responsibility to respond to incidents of bullying and to emphasise to staff, pupils, their parents/carers and all other stakeholders the Trust’s commitment to thoroughly investigate all incidents of bullying so that all pupils can enjoy a safe learning environment.

To this end, we will:

1. Fulfil our statutory responsibility to respect the rights of children and to safeguard and protect their welfare;
2. Address the problem of bullying through the implementation of Evolve Academy and EAT policies and procedures;
3. Raise awareness among staff, pupils, parents/carers and wider stakeholders about the issue of bullying to create an environment where bullying is seen as unacceptable;
4. Be proactive in the prevention of bullying and demonstrate to bullies that their behaviour is unacceptable and reassure victims that action will be taken to keep them safe;

5. Make staff, pupils, parents/carers and wider stakeholders aware of what actions to take when an incident of bullying has occurred, including access to current training to ensure best practice;
6. Accurately record all incidents of bullying and monitor the effectiveness of strategies implemented when bullying has occurred;
7. Address the behaviour of the bullies in a fair manner in line with the behaviour policy and provide guidance and support so that they can change their behaviour;
8. Ensure that victims of bullying are fully supported by trusted adults within the school environment.

Definition:

School bullying can be defined as:

“the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. It can happen face to face or online.”

Reference: The Anti-Bullying Alliance 2017 www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Bullying can be physical, verbal, emotional, sexual, online/cyber and indirect. Examples of bullying behaviour can be:

9. **Physical** – pushing, poking, kicking, hitting, biting, pinching etc.
10. **Verbal** – name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, threats, teasing, belittling.
11. **Emotional** – isolating others, tormenting, hiding books, threatening gestures, ridicule, humiliation, intimidating, excluding, manipulation and coercion.
12. **Sexual** – unwanted physical contact, inappropriate touching, abusive comments, homophobic, bi-phobic or transphobic abuse, exposure to inappropriate films etc.
13. **Online/cyber** – posting on social media, sharing photos, sending nasty text messages, social exclusion.
14. **Indirect** – can include the exploitation of individuals.

Reference: The Anti-Bullying Alliance 2017 www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Prevention

Staff:

All staff will be made aware of Evolve Academy stance on bullying through staff meetings and staff training. Staff will apply Evolve's anti-bullying policy consistently when episodes of bullying are witnessed by them or reported to them. Staff will regularly reinforce the message to pupils that bullying is unacceptable and will take positive action to prevent it.

Pupils:

The issue of bullying will be raised with pupils on several levels including the following:

1. Upon referral to one of our academies and during the initial visit to the school;
2. At whole school level through nurture activities, school council and regular drop-down events;
3. At regular intervals throughout the academic year during assemblies, weekly interventions and other timetabled activities;
4. Personalised interventions where needed to address any individual concerns.

Pupils will have the opportunity to share their views on bullying through the school council, student support sessions, PSHE lessons and with the trusted adults around them. External providers will be utilized to further raise awareness of bullying.

Evolve Academy reminds pupils of our 'Bigger Picture' through our Expectations. Pupils are recognised and rewarded for showing behaviours that promote care and celebrate our diverse school community:

Raising Awareness through the curriculum

Pupils will have the opportunity to learn about the impact of bullying through PSHE and sex and relationships lessons, external visitors and through the establishment of specific groups. It is important that our pupils are taught to develop empathy for each other and to improve their understanding of the needs of others. Bullying can prevent pupils from attending school, socialising, achieving academically and in some cases can have an extremely negative impact on their mental health. Pupils are taught to understand that we all have a social responsibility to each other and our communities to ensure that our behaviours are positively impacting on the lives of others.

When there are incidents of bullying the curriculum can be altered to ensure that pupils are fully informed and made aware of the significance of such behaviours.

Parents and Carers:

Parents/carers and pupils will be regularly consulted about their views on the effectiveness of anti-bullying strategies at our academies through surveys at parent showcase events and pupil voice sessions.

Information will always be shared with families when there has been an incident of bullying to ensure that the details are shared quickly and accurately to enable a swift and conclusive decision to be made. It is crucial that in all cases of bullying, families are made aware so that they can support both their child and the school.

Evaluation:

Analysis of the gathered data from all stakeholders will be used to inform the development of future anti-bullying strategies and initiatives. Recording of incidents, intervention and implementation of the anti-bullying policy will be quality assured by the Designated Safeguarding Lead and the Head Teacher. The Anti-Bullying Policy will be reviewed every three years.

Documentation:

All episodes of bullying reported to staff either verbally or in writing will be recorded by trained staff on our MIS. Any safeguarding issues which arise from these incidents will be logged as a safeguarding slip, which will automatically alert all Designated Safeguarding Leads and members of the Senior Leadership Team.

Consequences:

Incidents of bullying will be resolved by staff who have positive relationships with the pupil(s). A sanction will be imposed which may include any of the following:

1. A restorative meeting between the parties involved;
2. Eliciting an apology, verbal or written from the perpetrator of the bullying to the victim;
3. Contacting parents/carers, social workers;
4. Removal of break or lunch time of the perpetrator for a set period;
5. Asking another adult to mediate between the bully and the victim;
Intervention programme delivered to the perpetrator and/or the victim.
6. *Repeated, or more serious incidents of bullying behaviour may result in:*
7. Referral to the Senior Leadership Team for further action;
8. 1:1 targeted intervention work either on site or off site;
9. Internal Exclusion (as an alternative to a Fixed Term Exclusion) to undertake a bespoke intervention;

10. External Exclusion (Fixed Term Exclusion).

Hate Crime and Bullying

Definition

In accordance with the Police and the Crown Prosecution Service, the definition of hate crime is:

“Any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on a person’s race or perceived race; religion or perceived religion; sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation; disability or perceived disability and any crime motivated by hostility or prejudice against a person who is transgender or perceived to be transgender.”

There is a distinction between a hate crime and a hate incident. A hate incident is *“any incident in which the victim, or anyone else, thinks is based on someone’s prejudice towards them because of their race, religion, sexual orientation, disability or because they are transgender.”*

However, a hate incident does not necessarily break the law. Where a hate incident amounts to a criminal offence and is based on one of the five protected characteristics, it is known as a hate crime.

The type of conduct that will be considered as a hate incident is wide ranging and includes the following:

Verbal abuse; harassment; bullying or intimidation; physical attacks; threats of violence; hoax calls, abusive phone or text messages, hate mail; online abuse; displaying or circulating discriminatory literature or posters; graffiti; arson; throwing rubbish in a garden; malicious complaints.

Reference: The Anti-Bullying Alliance 2017 www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Recording

Incidents of bullying with a racist, faith targeted, homophobic, bi-phobic or transphobic content will be recorded on the MIS system and be referred to the Designated Safeguarding Leads and the Senior Leadership Team.

Reporting

If a hate crime has been committed, this will be reported to the police. For hate incidents where a crime has not been committed, perpetrators will be sanctioned in

accordance with the academy's Behaviour Policy and an intervention programme undertaken.

If an incident raises concerns about a student's welfare, behaviour or circumstances including expressing extremist ideas/terminology, the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead may complete a referral to the PREVENT team after investigation. PREVENT is one strand of the UK's overall counter terrorism strategy, known as CONTEST.

Further guidance on Kirklees' PREVENT and CHANNEL strategies, the referrals process and available support can be found at:

<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/communitysafety-partners/prevent.aspx>

Further guidance on Wakefield PREVENT and CHANNEL strategies, the referrals process and available support can be found at

<https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/community/prevent-in-wakefield>

Communities Wakefield Council Wakefield One PO Box 700 Burton Street Wakefield WF1 2EB - 01924 306645 or 01924 306776

Appendix A – External Support

- If you need urgent assistance with regards to a hate crime call 101 or 999
- If you find it difficult to talk to anyone at the Trust establishments or at home, ring ChildLine on Freephone 0800
- 1111, or email www.childline.org.uk. The phone call or email is free and it is a confidential helpline
- Bullying support for young people and advice about positive mental health – YoungMinds Website: www.youngminds.org.uk/vs-bullying. Telephone: 0808 802 5544
- Bullying support and advice, support and guidance about wellbeing, mental health, practical advice and other issues affecting young people – Website: www.getconnected.org.uk/Bullying Telephone: 0808 808 4994
- NSPCC - <http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/bullying-and-cyberbullying/>
- Think you Know – Advice and information about social networking, E-Safety and reporting online abuse – <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>
- LGBTQ, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning advice about bullying – bullying
- www.diversityrolemodels.org/ www.stonewall.org.uk/
- Advice with regards to hate incidents and crimes www.stophate.uk.org Local and National Support/ information
- Further information on hate crime nationally, including the prevalence of different types of crime, is available from the Home Office.
- National organisation Stop Hate UK and True Vision provide further information on hate crimes, including reporting, training and research