

What is Bullying?

'Bullying is defined as repeated behaviour over time which is intended to hurt someone either emotionally or physically and is often aimed at certain people because of their race, religion, gender or sexual orientation, social or economic background, disability or SEN need. It might be motivated by actual differences between children, or perceived differences.'

Department for Education- Preventing and tackling bullying

Statement of Intent

At West Exe School, our students are at the heart of everything we do. We are a vibrant community united in our commitment to creating opportunities for all students and staff to achieve success. We have high expectations of all our students and believe that students achieve excellent outcomes when they are challenged, when they develop high aspirations, and when they take advantage of all that school has to offer.

We aim to have a culture of courage, compassion, citizenship and respect: differences are valued. The School aims to foster an atmosphere of friendship, mutual trust, respect and consideration for each person within the community.

Our school will:

- have a designated Senior Leader who is the Anti-Bullying Champion
- have a designated Mental Health Champion
- recruit Anti-Bullying Ambassadors in each year group
- provide quality assured training for Anti-Bullying Ambassadors-Diana Award
- have a clear reporting system for students, staff and parents/carers to use to report incidents of bullying
- have a system of clear, fair and consistent responses to incidences of bullying ensuring a supportive, caring and safe environment for all children and young people.
- We will follow our Anti-Bullying process, which is layered with intervention and sanction after each incident.
- We will educate students when they have been unkind towards others using a range of interventions, activities and booklets.
- promote Anti-Bullying through assemblies, half termly focus weeks and student voice etc
- work with stakeholders to achieve the Anti-Bullying Kite Mark Award. The following link will take you to the Anti-Bullying Kite Mark Award. <https://www.abqm-uk.com>

In addition, we will use the following guiding principles as part of our work to:

- promote a culture of high expectations at West Exe. We will ensure that our students have a sense of pride in our community and feel happy and safe to be a part of our school.
- be a vibrant community united in our commitment to compassion, courage and citizenship
- educate and empower young people, establishing an ethos where students set a good example to others. We aim to encourage all members of our school community to recognise bullying, acknowledge it is unacceptable and report it.
- challenge bullying through education, through prompt and sustained responses and to develop the confidence for young people within our community.

At West Exe, we ...

Celebrate Diversity

- Diversity and differences are actively and visibly celebrated and welcomed across the whole school.

Value Kindness

- We are a kind and caring community that celebrates compassion, courage and citizenship.

Educate to Empower

- We challenge bullying through education and encourage all members of our school community to recognise bullying, acknowledge it is unacceptable and report it.

Listen, Reassure & Respond

- All students, parents and carers are listened to and influence strategies and approaches to prevent, report and respond to incidents of bullying to allow students to learn in a safe, supportive and caring environment.

Choose **kindness** - Be kind and caring towards each other
Have an **empathetic** mind set – Empathy is kindness in action
Embody **patience, curiosity, and warmth**

Internet safety – Be smart, Stay Alert, Don't get hurt
Talk – a problem shared is a problem halved
Stand up and speak out – You're not a 'snitch'. When you say nothing, you say it's OK

Embrace **diversity, equality and inclusion** - We are one race, the human race
Have **mutual respect** for each other
Trust in adult **mentors** and peer support
Negotiate – Restorative Justice