

BRAUNSTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



ANTI-CYBER BULLYING POLICY

'Learning for life in all its fullness'

At Braunston CE Primary School our vision is "Learning for life in all its fullness". We aim to fulfil this vision by weaving our Christian values into the fabric of our school, creating a very clear and distinctive Christian ethos that underpins every thought, decision and action made.

Our 6 Values are:

Relationships
Reconciliation
Resilience
Respects and Reverence
Responsibility
Reflection

These values are derived from stories of the life and works of the trinity: God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Each value is modelled and demonstrated by staff through the way they act and behave towards each other and all stakeholders, language and vocabulary used and how teaching and learning is approached. The expectation at our school is that children also display these 6 Christian values.

All school policies are approached in a manner which encompasses these Christian values.



Anti-Cyber Bullying Policy

Rationale

At Braunston CE Primary children have embraced the use of information and communication technologies to maintain contact with friends and make new ones. They send e-mails, create their own websites, post personal news in blogs (online interactive diaries), send text messages and images via mobile phones, have in game interactions, message each other through IMs (instant messages), chat in chat rooms, post to discussion boards, and seek out new friends in community sites.

Braunston CE Primary understands that while most interactions are positive, there are increasing reports of these technologies being used to harass and intimidate others. This has become known as cyber bullying. Braunston CE Primary will educate and support the children at the school to protect themselves from the threat of cyber-bullying and understand the impact on victims.

Definition

At Braunston CE Primary we define Cyber bullying as when someone is tormented, threatened, harassed, humiliated, embarrassed, or otherwise targeted by another person using the Internet, interactive and digital technologies or mobile phones. It has to be a minor on both sides, or at least have been instigated by a minor against another minor.

There are many types of cyber bullying and the following are some of the most common:

- ***Text Messages***
- ***Picture/Video Clips***
- ***Mobile Phone Calls***
- ***Emails***
- ***Chat room Bullying***
- ***Instant Messaging (IM) Bullying via Websites***
- ***Bullying through in-game interactions***

Staff at Braunston CE Primary has the responsibility to ensure that:

- *all forms of cyber bullying are prohibited at School*
- *staff are aware of cyber bullying and are able to identify and look for signs of occurrence among the children*
- *students are aware of the consequences of cyber bullying*
- *a code of conduct is in use for technology, including computers and mobile phones, whilst on the school premises*
- *all cases of cyber bullying are reported to the Headteacher and responded to promptly*
- *there is supervision of technology that is effective for monitoring and deterring cyber bullying*

Children at Braunston CE Primary have a responsibility to ensure that they:

- *do not bring in mobile phones to School*
- *do not participate in cyber bullying*
- *do not use mobile phones, cameras or other digital devices to record audio and visual material that is not authorised as part of the school curriculum program*
- *do not breach the privacy of students, staff and members of the school community through any unauthorised recording or filming*
- *do not disseminate inappropriate information through digital media or other means*
- *report incidents of cyber bullying to a member of staff*
- *advise children being victimised by cyber bullying to talk to an adult*
- *offer to speak to an adult on behalf of the student who is being victimised by cyber bullying*

At Braunston CE Primary we are committed to developing a safe environment where the students act respectfully and positively towards each other in acceptable and non-threatening ways.

How children can protect themselves from cyber bullies

- 1. Do not give anyone access to your passwords or provide people you don't trust with your phone number.**
- 2. Be careful which websites you post personal information on.**

3. Do not open e-mails or read text messages from unidentified names or phone numbers.
4. Tell a teacher or a member of the Senior Leadership team if they are being bullied
5. First and foremost, save original evidence(e-mails, instant messages, etc) with dates and times with help from an adult if required

ICT and Mobile Phone Policy

At Braunston CE Primary if a cyber-bullying incident directed at a child occurs using e-mail or mobile phone technology, either inside or outside school time we will take the following steps:

- *Advise the child not to respond to the message*
- *Refer to relevant policies, e.g.online safety, acceptable use, anti-bullying*
- *Secure and preserve any evidence*
- *Inform the sender's e-mail service provider*
- *Notify parents of the children involved*
- *Consider delivering a parent workshop for the school community*
- *Consider informing the police depending on the severity or repetitious nature of the offence. The school recognises that some cyber-bullying activities could be a criminal offence.*

At Braunston CE Primary if malicious or threatening comments are posted on an Internet site or Social Networking Site about a pupil or member of staff we will also:

- *Inform and request that the comments be removed if the site is administered externally*
- *Secure and preserve any evidence*
- *Send all the evidence to www.ceop.gov.uk/contact_us.html if of a sexual nature*
- *Endeavour to trace the origin and inform the police as appropriate.*

Support for Victims of Cyber-bullying

At Braunston CE Primary we will provide the following support;

- *Offer emotional support; reassure them that they have done the right thing in telling*
- *Advise the person not to retaliate or reply. Instead, keep the evidence and take it to their parent or a member of staff*
- *Advise the person to consider what information they have in the public domain*
- *Unless the victim sees it as a punishment, they may be advised to change details e.g. mobile phone number*
- *If hurtful or embarrassing content is being distributed, try to get it removed from the web. If the person who posted it is known, ensure they understand why it is wrong and ask them to remove it. Alternatively, contact the host provider and make a report to get the content taken down*
- *Confiscate mobile phone, ask pupil to delete the offending content and say who they sent it on to*
- *Contact the Police in cases of actual/suspected illegal content*
- *In some cases, the person being bullied may be able to block the person bullying from their sites and services*

Responsibilities of Parents and Carers at Braunston CE Primary

- *Be aware, your child may as likely cyberbully as be a target of cyberbullying. What might be intended as a joke or friendly banter on the part of the sender may not be interpreted as that by the recipient. Be alert to your child seeming upset after using the internet or mobile phone. This might involve subtle comments or changes in relationships with friends.*
- *Talk with your children and understand the ways in which they are using the internet and their mobile phone.*
- *Be aware of the websites and applications your children use, and of any safety or privacy features these may contain.*
- *Remind children not to reply to bullying online.*
- *Keep the evidence of bullying emails, text messages or online conversations.*
- *Report cyberbullying: contact your child's school if it involves another pupil so that they can take appropriate action; contact the service provider or website; if the cyberbullying is serious and a potential criminal offence has been committed consider contacting the police.*

Responsibilities of Governing Body at Braunston CE Primary

- *Read, understand, contributes to and help promote the school's online safety policies and guidance.*
Be aware of the benefits and risks of the Internet and common technologies used by pupils.
- *Be aware of how the school's computing infrastructure provides safe access to the Internet.*
- *Be aware of how the school encourages pupils to adopt safe and responsible behaviours in their use of technology in and out of school.*
- *Support the work of the online safety lead in promoting and ensuring safe and responsible use of technology in and out of school, including encouraging parents to become engaged in online safety activities.*
- *Ensure appropriate funding and resources are available for the school to implement their online safety strategy.*

Evaluating the policy and its effectiveness

At Braunston CE Primary the Policy will be reviewed annually and also in light of any technological advancements that may arise before this date. The School Council will be used to gather Pupil's opinions and points of view. There will be an annual evaluation and review of recorded cyber bullying incidents and their outcomes

Disability Equality Impact Assessment

This policy has been written with reference to and in consideration of the school's Disability Equality Scheme. Assessment will include consideration of issues identified by the involvement of disabled children, staff and parents and any information the school holds on disabled children, staff and parents.

Safeguarding Children

Braunston CE Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment. Enhanced DBS clearance is essential for all posts at our school. All safeguarding procedures and information can be found in Braunston CE School's Safeguarding Policy.

Signed: 
Chair of Governors *R. HOWARD*

Date: 17th January 2018

Review Date: Spring 2020

