
	The Brakenhale School Policy	
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Policy Title	Anti-Bullying	Version No	3.0
Status	Non-Statutory	Approved	

Rationale	The Brakenhale School aims to be a safe and secure learning environment in which all members of the community are respected and able to reach their potential.
Policy Statement	<p>1. Why we must STOP Bullying? Bullying affects everyone, not just the bully and their victim but also the bystanders who witness the violence, intimidation and the distress of the victim.</p> <p>2. What is bullying? The Brakenhale School Council has adopted the Kidscape definitions of bullying. The following behaviours have been identified as bullying behaviours.</p> <p>Physical: Pushing, kicking, hitting, pinching, and any other forms of violence, threats Verbal: Name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, persistent teasing, racist remarks Emotional: Excluding someone from social groups, tormenting (i.e. hiding books, threatening gestures), ridicule, humiliation Racist: Racial taunts, graffiti, gestures Sexual: Unwanted physical contact or abusive comments.</p> <p>It also includes any form of Cyber bullying which is the use of information and communication technology (ICT) particularly mobile phones and the internet deliberately to upset someone else.</p> <p>If you are being subjected to a sustained level of unpleasantness, which includes any of the behaviours listed, then this should be treated as bullying and reported to your Tutor or Head of Year.</p> <p>Students must be encouraged to report bullying in school.</p> <p>3. How are you feeling?</p> <p>If things are not going too well you may be feeling generally unhappy. Perhaps you are snappy and often find yourself in a bad temper. Are you getting into trouble at home and school? Do you ever find yourself trying to persuade your parents not to send you to school? Are you getting tummy aches, headaches especially in the mornings or Sunday evening?</p> <p>In these situations its important to talk to someone rather than struggling along on your own.</p> <p>Sometimes you will experience relationship problems with others. In the majority of cases the difficulties are part of growing up and although you may feel unhappy about 'falling out' with those involved such incidents are not necessarily bullying incidents. However, you may still want support in order to cope in these situations. Talk to your parents, or your Tutor or your Head of Year. If you have a friend who is unhappy, offer support or encourage them to seek help.</p>

Students can report incidents in school by talking to their Tutor or Head of Year or by email

Internal email: bully@brakenhale

From home:
bully@brakenhale.bracknell-forest.sch.uk

4. Why should we report bullying incidents?

Sometimes students do not want to report bullying incidents because they are frightened that this will make the situation worse. Our school survey showed that this is not normally the case.

Not reporting a bullying incident allows the bully to continue with their bullying behaviour.

This is not good for the bully, who needs help in order to change their antisocial behaviour, or for those who are the victims or those who witness such events.

5. Once you have reported the bullying incident in school a member of staff will talk to you the same day and will go through your statement if one has been made at home, or will take a statement.

The incident will be logged and your Head of Year, if they are not already dealing with the incident, will be informed.

An investigation will take place.

This will usually take the form of your Head of Year talking separately to the bully/bullies and to any witnesses.

Action will be taken. It is likely that school staff and others will use a 'no blame approach' because this has been found the most successful method of dealing with bullying incidents.

- If it seems appropriate you and the bully may meet with your Tutor or Head of Year to discuss what has been happening and to agree a way forward.
- The school may organise a conference involving all parties. The Head of Year or Education Welfare Officer could chair such a conference.
- Some incidents may warrant the intervention of the school Police Liaison Officer who might organise a more formal 'Restorative Justice' conference.

6. Consequences

There will be consequences for bullying behaviour. The consequences will vary according to the severity of the incident but all incidents of bullying will be treated seriously.

The following steps can be taken:

- Official warning to cease offending
- Detention
- Exclusion from certain areas of school premises
- Minor fixed-term exclusion
- Major fixed-term exclusion
- Permanent exclusion

The Brakenhale School – Policy Document

There are guidance leaflets about Anti-Bullying available in school for parents and students. There is also a guidance leaflet on Cyber Bullying.

Links to other policies	Teaching & Learning / Cyber Bullying/ Behaviour for Learning		
Staff responsible	JJM	Monitoring & Evaluation by	SLT, Governors, LA
School Group Responsible	SLT, HoYs,	Governors Committee Responsible	S&SW
Date approved by S&SW	16.03.10	Review Date	Annually
Date approved by FGB			