

Anti-Bullying policy

Policy Statement

I am committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of the children who attend so they can play and learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying in any form is not permitted in my home.

Policy procedure

Bullying is the intention of hurting another person which results in either pain and/or distress to the victim. Bullying can be:

Physical - pushing, kicking, hitting, biting, etc.

Verbal - name-calling, sarcasm, rumour spreading, teasing;

Emotional - being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting, threatening gestures;

Racist - racial taunts, graffiti, gestures;

Cyber - all areas of the internet such as email and chat room misuse, mobile threats by text messaging and calls, misuse of camera and video facilities on mobile phones.

Being bullied can result in the victim having depression, low self-esteem, shyness, poor academic achievement, isolation and in extreme cases, threatened or attempted suicide. If a bully is left unchecked, they will learn that they can get away with violence and aggression. A bully has a higher chance of acquiring a criminal record and not being able to have good relationships when they become an adult.

If I have concerns that a child in my care is being bullied or is bullying, I will discuss the matter with you immediately. I will work with you to support your child to resolve the problem.

If your child is being bullied, I will:

Reassure them that the bullying is not their fault;

Tell them that I care about them and that I am 100% on their side;

Give lots of praise, encouragement and responsibilities to help them feel valued and promote self-confidence and self esteem;

Work with you to help your child to develop techniques to deal with the bully - assertiveness, walking away, etc.

If your child is the bully, I will:

Reassure your child that I still care about them but it is the behaviour I don't like;

Work with the child to help change this;

Work with your child to find ways to make amends for their actions;

Develop a reward structure for good behaviour;

Discuss the matter with you (not in front of your child) to see if there are problems that may have triggered the bullying.

If you have any concerns regarding your child, please discuss them with me as soon as possible, as it is much better to deal with these problems before they become major issues.

Further information and reading may be obtained from www.kidscape.org.uk.

Mrs Beverley Flockton
Auntie Bev's Childminding
Reviewed September 2014