



# YSGOL GYMRAEG YSTALYFERA-BRO DUR

## Anti-Bullying Policy

Designated Safeguarding Officer Ystalyfera (Secondary):	Mrs Delyth Spurway
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officers Ystalyfera (Secondary):	Mr Emyr Evans / Mrs Rachel Thomas
Designated Safeguarding Officer Ystalyfera (Primary):	Mrs Louise Edmondson
Under the guidance of Mrs Delyth Spurway	
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officers Ystalyfera (Primary):	Mr Robert Colwell
Designated Safeguarding Officer Bro Dur:	Miss Kath Jones
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officer Bro Dur:	Miss Carys Hughes
Designated Safeguarding Officer Governor:	Ms Kerys Thomas

Adopted by Governing Body 2018

Signed (Chair of Governors):

January 2018

Reviewed by Governing Body:

Signed (Chair of Governors):

November 2022

Signed (Chair of Governors):

November 2023

Signed (Chair of Governors):

November 2024

## YSGOL GYMRAEG YSTALYFERA BRO DUR

### POLICY STATEMENT

### ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years. Whilst creating this policy the following documents have been referred to:

1. Anti-Bullying Guidelines  
(Circular 23/2003)
2. Respecting others: Anti-bullying overview  
(Guidance document No: 050/2011)
3. Respecting others: Bullying around race, religion and culture Guidance  
(Guidance document No: 051/2011)
4. Respecting others: Sexist, Sexual and Transphobic bullying Guidance  
(Guidance document No: 055/2011)
5. Respecting others: Homophobic bullying Guidance  
(Guidance document No: 056/2011)
6. Respecting others: Cyberbullying Guidance  
(Guidance document No: 057/2011)
7. Respecting Others: Bullying around Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

#### AIM:

Promote effective relationships in school.

#### OBJECTIVES:

1. Create an environment and community that makes everyone feel homely, safe and happy. Only in this type of atmosphere can everyone achieve their full potential. Bullying of any type undermines the equal opportunity for all.
2. Where bullying happens, that we can recognise it early and deal with the matter as soon as possible and hopefully abolish it

#### CHARACTERISTICS:

##### a. What is bullying?

The term 'bullying' refers to a range of harmful behaviour, both physical and psychological. All bullying behaviour usually has the following four features:

1. It is usually repetitive and persistent.
2. It is intentionally harmful.
3. It involves an imbalance of power, leaving someone feeling helpless to prevent it or put a stop to it.
4. It causes feelings of distress, fear, loneliness and lack of confidence in those who are at the receiving end.

#### Definitions of different types of bullying

##### Racist Bullying

The term 'racist bullying' can refer to a range of hurtful behaviour, both physical and psychological, that makes a person feel unwelcome, marginalised, excluded, powerless or worthless because of their colour, ethnicity, culture, faith community, national origin or national status.

### **Sexist bullying**

This is bullying based on sexist attitudes that when expressed demean, intimidate or harm another person because of their sex or gender.

### **Sexual bullying**

This is bullying behaviour that has a specific sexual dimension or a sexual dynamic and it may be physical, verbal or non-verbal/psychological.

### **Transphobic bullying**

Transphobic bullying stems from a hatred or fear of people who are transgender. Transgender is a term that describes people whose sense of gender or gender identity is seen as being different to typical gender norms.

### **Homophobic Bullying**

Homophobic bullying is a specific form of bullying and occurs when bullying is motivated by prejudice against Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual (LGB) people, or against those perceived to be LGB.

### **Cyber bullying**

Cyber bullying can be defined as the use of information and communication technology (ICT), particularly mobile phones and the internet (including social networking sites, blogs, e-mail, video and instant messaging), to deliberately upset someone else.

### **SEN bullying**

The term 'SEN bullying' can refer to a range of hurtful behaviour, both physical and psychological, that makes a person feel unwelcome, marginalised, excluded, powerless or worthless because of their disability or learning difficulties.

### **Bullying can take many forms, but the three main types are:**

- **physical – hitting, kicking, taking belongings, sexual harassment or aggression**
- **verbal – name-calling, insulting, making offensive remarks**
- **indirect – spreading nasty stories about someone, exclusion from social groups, being made the subject of malicious rumours, sending malicious e-mails or text messages on mobile phones.**

It must be accepted that some of the above take place as part of the process of growing up and sometimes by chance, doing so without malice. This is not defined as bullying in this connection, and if it is caught immediately and dealt with, but if it happens to the same person many times, that is considered to be bullying.

#### **b. When does bullying take place?**

Bullying can take place at any time but most often when adults are unlikely to be witness to the incident (*e.g. on the way to or home from school, during break and lunch time, or in more obscure places of the school*). In such situations, staff are dependent upon pupils, parents or carers to inform them of any case of bullying.

Very often however, there is no information of cases due to:

- other pupils' fear of being bullied themselves if they complain;
- fear by those who suffer the bullying that the bullying would become worse if a complaint is made;
- fear by a child that his/her complaint is not taken seriously.

## Prevention

PSE offers a range of opportunities to explore issues related to all types of bullying.

- The *Foundation Phase Framework for Children's Learning for 3 to 7-year-olds in Wales* (Welsh Assembly Government, 2008) has personal and social development, well-being and cultural diversity as core elements. Children have opportunities to learn about themselves and their relationships with other children and adults within and beyond their family.
- The revised *Personal and social education framework for 7 to 19-year-olds in Wales* (Welsh Assembly Government, 2008) aims to equip children and young people to be more informed and confident to interact effectively with others, and enables them to develop the intrapersonal skills needed to be emotionally literate.

There are also a range of strategies used by the school to prevent bullying. These include:

Registration  
Personal Tutor  
Peer mentors  
Buddies  
School counselor  
Stafell stwnsh  
Police – School liaison officers and PCSO  
External speakers  
External agencies – SNAP, NSPCC, Social services, SEAL and Childline  
School counsellors  
Restorative Circles

## The Bully's Behaviour

The bullies very often enjoy the pleasure of knowing they cause pain or fear and create a feeling of inferiority among their victims. Very often they use bullying tactics as a way of achieving their aims. Their main intention is the need for control, to exercise authority or to bolster their own self esteem.

Bullying very often focuses on individual differences or anything which is different from the norm. Therefore it can undermine the work of YSGOL GYMRAEG YSTALYFERA-BRO DUR which seeks to promote equal opportunities for everybody and endeavours to teach pupils about moral and social values. Bullying can refer to a person's physical characteristics or appearance or focus on a different lifestyle regarding culture, viewpoints and beliefs. It can also focus on an individual's nationality, race or religion.

## Recognising the Signs

It can be difficult for staff and parents to recognise the signs of bullying. However these are indicators to note:

- fearing to walk to and from school;
- doesn't want to go to school;
- asking to go in the car rather than on the school bus;
- changing the daily routine;
- continues to refuse going to school;
- beginning to play truant;
- losing self confidence and beginning to worry;

- showing signs of stammering;
- attempting suicide or running away;
- crying at night or experiencing nightmares;
- feeling ill in the morning ;
- standard of school work deteriorates;
- coming home with clothes torn or books damaged;
- asking for money (in order to pay the bully);
- continually losing dinner money;
- having unexplained bruises;
- coming home famished;
- beginning to behave unreasonably and wildly;
- bullying other children or brothers/ sisters;
- stops eating;
- afraid to discuss the problem;
- making excuses for any of the above.

The list can be endless. Changes in the usual patterns of a pupil's behaviour can suggest worries that derive from bullying.

## **STEPS TO TAKE**

Preventing bullying from taking place is better than trying to stop it when it has happened, therefore YSGOL GYMRAEG YSTALYFERA-BRO DUR has strategies in place to notice possible signs and take every report of bullying seriously. YSGOL GYMRAEG YSTALYFERA-BRO DUR uses opportunities within the curriculum and assemblies to present the school ethos and to raise the pupils' awareness of how to respond positively to conflict that can arise from time to time.

When a report is received that bullying is taking place every case is dealt with individually in the light of what has taken place. The main objective is not 'to save' the victim, or punish the perpetrator (although both takes place naturally) but try to be of assistance for both to come to a better understanding of their behaviour and to consider ways of avoiding or solving difficulties they experience or display.

In general this procedure is followed in cases of bullying:

### **i. Discuss the incidence with the pupils individually.**

This will support the victim by:

- ensuring that the pupil feels that somebody is listening to him/her;
- ensuring the pupil that every case of bullying is taken seriously;
- supporting the pupil in explaining how he/she can have support and how the complaint is dealt with.

There is a need to show that the bully also has fair play by:

- explaining the reasons why the meeting is held;

- be calm and uncritical in order to ensure that
- this child also feels that he/she is being listened to;
- ensure the pupil that every case of bullying is a serious case and that it is not possible to approve such behaviour;
- explain how he/she can be given assistance and support and how the incidence will be dealt with

**ii. Interview both pupils together (where appropriate)**

In this interview:

- i. the pupils will be given an opportunity to discuss the problem according to their understanding of it, whilst the staff member remains quiet and uncritical;
- ii. get the staff member to listen more than he/she is talking. It is important that the teacher does not take for granted how the pupils are feeling or predict what they have to say. The pupils are far more likely to think regarding the behaviour when they feel that someone is listening to them rather than talking to them;
- iii. paraphrase what was heard, in order to show an understanding of what was said. It is more important to understand how the pupils interpret the situation than how the teacher sees it;
- iv. encourage the pupils whilst questioning them to meditate regarding the behaviour and the factors.
- v. encourage the pupils to find ways of solving the problem in question and avoid repeating the incidence.

**iii. Hold a meeting for the parents/guardians**

If a problem arises with the same pupil then the parents/guardians will be informed about the nature of the problem and concern.

**vi. Recording:**

Incidents should be recorded according to the different types of bullying and reported to Governors as part of the Annual Report to Governing Body on Safeguarding Children.

**vii. Further action**

When the above strategy fails, and the bullying continues, further steps will have to be taken. These steps can include:

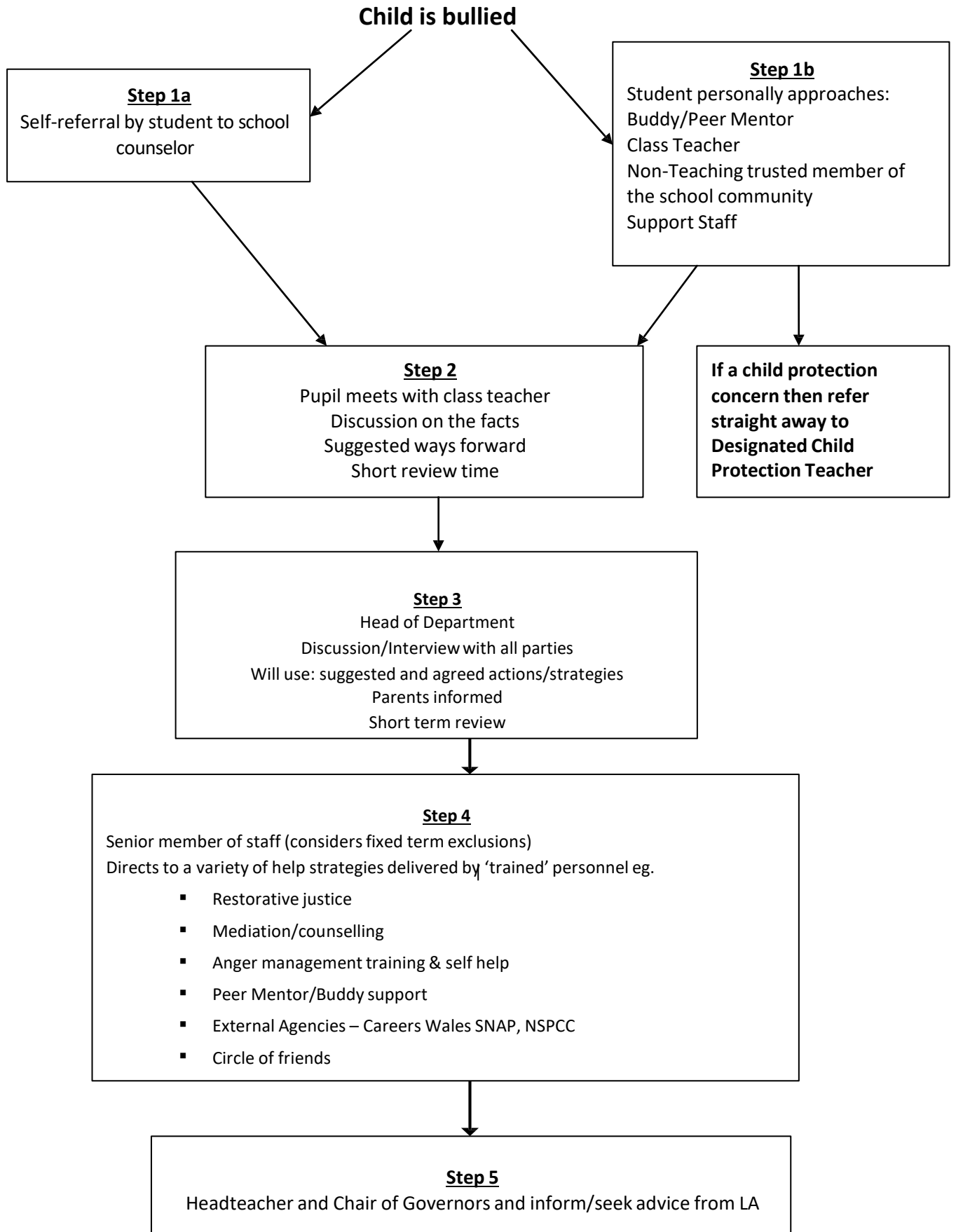
- Bringing external agencies into the discussion (in order to consider whether there are additional social, emotional, physical or mental health problems that the external agencies need to address).
- Punishments such as:
  - moving the pupil from the group
  - declining privileges
  - pastoral support programme
- If every attempt has failed, fixed term exclusions can be considered.
- Restorative justice
- Managed moves

- Permanent exclusion



Naturally, this policy runs in parallel with the School's Promoting Good Behaviour policy, Use of the Internet (pupils) Policy and Strategic Equality Plan.

# RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES IN SCHOOL FOR REPORTING BULLYING PATHWAYS OF HELP

(In serious cases it is possible to jump steps to the relevant step)





	Name	Signature	Date
Chair of Governors	Mr Tudur Jones		Tachwedd 2024
Head Teacher	Mrs Laurel Davies		Tachwedd 2024

Review Date

Tachwedd	2025
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