

Stanstead Primary School

Anti – Cyber Bullying Policy



We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our children and expect all staff to share this commitment. Our Safeguarding and PREVENT policies are integral to all other policies and practice and form part of our school life. Our aim is to ensure our children are safe at all times.

To be updated Feb 2019

Social Media bullying involves sending menacing or upsetting responses to children or young people which may be visible to others or private.

Bullying through instant messaging (IM) is an Internet-based form of bullying where children and young people are sent unpleasant messages as they conduct real-time conversations online (i.e. MSN, Bebo, Facebook, Twitter, etc.).

Bullying via websites includes the use of defamatory blogs (web logs), personal websites and online personal polling sites. There has also been a significant increase in social networking sites for young people, which can provide new opportunities for cyber bullying

What I can do as a parent.

Don't wait for something to happen before you act. Make sure your child understands how to use these technologies safely and knows about the risks and consequences of misusing them.

Make sure they know what to do if they or someone they know are being cyber bullied. Encourage your child to talk to you if they have any problems with cyber bullying. If they do, contact school, the mobile network or the Internet Service Provider (ISP). Parental control software can limit who your child sends emails to and who he or she receives them from. It can also block access to some chat rooms.

Moderated chat rooms are supervised by trained adults. Your ISP will tell you whether they provide moderated chat services.

Make sure you know what your child is doing online and who your child's online friends are.

Suggestions for parents to stay involved.

Keep the computer or internet device in a public place in the house. Periodically check what your child is doing.

Discuss the kinds of Internet activities your child enjoys.

Tell your child that you will periodically check the files on the computer eg the browser history.

Search for your child's name online, look at his or her profiles and postings on teen community sites, review web pages or blogs.

Tell your child that you may review his or her private communication activities if you have reason to believe you will find unsafe or irresponsible behaviour.

Watch out for secretive behaviour as you approach the computer, such as rapidly switching screens, and for attempts to hide online behaviour, such as an empty history file.



What I can do as a pupil.

If you are being bullied, remember bullying is never your fault. It can be stopped and it can usually be traced.

Don't ignore the bullying. Tell someone you trust, such as a teacher or parent, or call an advice line.

Try to keep calm. If you are frightened, try to show it as little as possible. Don't get angry, it will only make the person bullying you more likely to continue.

There is plenty of online advice on how to react to cyber bullying. For example, www.stopcyberbullying.org and www.wiredsafety.org have some useful tips:

Text/Video Messaging

You can turn off incoming messages for a couple of days.

If bullying persists you can change your phone number (ask your Mobile service provider).

Do not reply to abusive or worrying text or video messages - your Mobile service provider will have a number for you to ring or text to report phone bullying. Visit their website for details.

E-mail

Never reply to unpleasant or unwanted e-mails.

Don't accept e-mails or open files from people you do not know.

Ask an adult to contact the sender's ISP by writing abuse@ and then the host, eg. abuse@hotmail.com.

Web

If the bullying is on the school website, tell a teacher or parent, just as you would if the bullying was face-to-face.

Chat Room & Instant Messaging

Never give out your name, address, phone number, school name or password online. It's a good idea to use a nickname. Do not give out photos of yourself either.

Do not accept e-mails or open files from people you do not know.

Remember it might not just be people your own age in a chat room.

Stick to public areas in chat rooms and get out if you feel uncomfortable.

Tell your parents or carers if you feel uncomfortable or worried about anything that happens in a chat room.

Think carefully about what you write - don't leave yourself open to bullying Policy/anti-cyber bullying