



The Hyndburn Academy
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

Anti-Bullying Policy

Document Owner	Nicola Clark
Last Review	May 2026
Next Review	May 2027
Approved by	Umar Wazir – Principal
Ratified by Governors	Lyndsey Sims



Contents

1. Aim	3
2. Purpose	3
3. Definition of Bullying	3
4. Signs of Bullying.....	4
5. Reporting and Support	4
6. Approach to Addressing Bullying.....	4
7. Sanctions	5
8. Roles and Responsibilities	5
9. Protection for Students, Parents/Carers and Staff	6
10. Anti-Bullying Strategies	6
11. Monitoring and Review	7



1. Aim

The Hyndburn Academy is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment where all pupils can thrive, free from bullying and harassment. Our anti-bullying policy aligns with guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) and the 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (KCSIE) framework, ensuring a comprehensive approach to preventing and addressing bullying. We are proud to be a member of the Anti-Bullying Alliance, reinforcing our commitment to promoting a culture of kindness, respect, and inclusion.

Under Section 89 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, schools are required to have measures in place to encourage good behaviour and prevent all forms of bullying among pupils. These measures must be part of the school's behaviour policy and be communicated to all pupils, staff, and parents and carers.

2. Purpose

- To prevent bullying from occurring.
- To create a positive and safe learning environment.
- To develop an individual's self-esteem and respect for others.
- To have a complete and consistent method for dealing with incidents of bullying.
- To understand the different types of bullying and hold a consistent definition of what bullying is.
- To ensure all members of our academy have a high level of awareness of the Anti-Bullying policy and its aims.
- To ensure parents/carers and other members of the community are aware of our approach to bullying.
- To ensure all are aware of their roles and responsibilities to prevent and tackle bullying.
- To resolve bullying, where possible, by means of reconciliation, support, or where necessary sanction.

This policy is underpinned by a legal framework, and we are aware of our duty to prevent bullying in our academies, specifically including:

- The Education and Inspection Act 2006
- The Education (Independent School standards) Regulations 2014
- The Equality Act 2010
- The Children Act 1989
- Keeping Children Safe in Education

3. Definition of Bullying

Bullying is behaviour by an individual, or group, repeated over time that intentionally hurts another individual, or group either physically or emotionally.

To be clear it is:

- **Repeated:** Occurs over a period of time.
- **Intentional:** Aimed at hurting, harming, or humiliating another individual.
- **Imbalance of Power:** Involves a real or perceived power disparity between the perpetrator and the victim.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Verbal abuse (e.g., name-calling, teasing)
- Physical abuse (e.g., hitting, pushing)
- Emotional abuse (e.g., spreading rumours, exclusion)
- Cyberbullying (e.g., online harassment, abusive messages)
- Transphobic bullying (e.g., unwanted physical contact/ abusive comments, in relation to sexuality or gender assignment)

- Sexist bullying (e.g., abusive comments, particularly related to gender or reputational labelling (e.g. use of words like slag, slut)
- Racial abuse and/bullying
- These behaviours can occur in person or through digital platforms.

4. Signs of Bullying

Here are several possible signs and behaviours which might indicate a student is being bullied:

- being frightened of journeying to and from the academy
- unwillingness to come to the academy
- withdrawn, isolated behaviour
- taking an unusual route to the academy
- becomes easily distressed and / or stops eating
- is afraid to use the internet or mobile phone
- complaining about missing possessions
- begins to truant
- feels ill in the morning
- attempts to self-harm
- difficulty sleeping
- has unexplained scratches, bruises and cuts
- attempts to gain money for unusual requests (stealing is possible)
- academy work begins to deteriorate
- becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- bullying other students
- refusal to talk about the problem
- damaged or incomplete work
- refusing to work in a group or with another student

5. Reporting and Support

Students and parents/carers are encouraged to report any bullying incidents to the academy promptly. Reports can be made through:

- Using our confidential Sharp System. Email: sharp@hyndburnacademy.org.uk or complete the online form via the Sharp System button on the homepage of our school website.
- To use the Well-Being box located outside the Head of Years Office
- A trusted adult within the academy

6. Approach to Addressing Bullying

The Academy has a variety of strategies to effectively manage and resolve bullying incidents:

- Following repeated reports of unkind behaviour, an investigation is opened.
- A meeting is held between the student and the Head of Year to discuss the incident and to gather information.
- A member of staff will contact home to discuss the issue
- The issue will be logged via Arbor and CPOMs
- Restorative meetings can be held, internal or external
- Regular wellbeing check-in can be arranged
- Behaviour contracts between students can be drawn up

- Issues will be communicated to staff to ensure awareness around the academy, including social times. Staff closely monitor
- Where appropriate, students will be signposted to external agencies
- The academy educates students regarding bullying in assemblies, PSHE Education and through anti-bullying week
- If bullying persists interventions are implemented and sanctions are issued (as below and linked to behaviour policy)
- The victim is offered pastoral and well-being support

7. Sanctions

Sanctions for bullying are applied in accordance with The Hyndburn Academy Behaviour Policy and may depend on the severity of bullying. These may include:

- Detentions
- The bully (bullies) will be asked to genuinely apologise
- Restorative conversations determined by the victim will be held
- Time in our Reflection provision
- Fixed-term exclusions
- Withholding from academy trips or visits
- Permanent exclusion in severe cases
- Police involvement

The academy is committed to supporting both victims and perpetrators of bullying, promoting restorative practices and behavioural interventions to foster a positive and inclusive school culture.

8. Roles and Responsibilities

8.1 All Staff

All staff must respond to allegations of bullying and be clear that no issue is too small; any incidents of unkind or harmful behaviours are to be logged on Arbor and CPOMs. It is essential that students have the confidence that allegations are taken seriously and acted upon. The incident will always be investigated.

- The priority is to give protection and support to the victim.
- Staff will seek advice, if necessary, from their line-manager on how to proceed.
- Staff must make it clear that the bully's behaviour is unacceptable – it is important that disapproval is explained in a calm and rational way – avoid bullying the bully.
- Investigations will be made to ascertain the reasons for the bully's behaviour and, if possible, action taken to alter the behaviour of the bully or bullies.
- The victims of bullying will receive support and help to develop strategies for dealing with bullying; attempts need to be made to rebuild the self-esteem of victims of bullying.
- Victims of bullying may believe that they deserve to be bullied – they feel powerless and vulnerable – self-esteem can be damaged, so it is essential that self-confidence is re-established through appropriate follow-up work, such as counselling or peer mediation.
- Victims must be reassured that, should any incident occur, they must come forward again and that any escalation or repetition will be taken extremely seriously.
- The bully will be supported in recognising their anti-social behaviour and will be offered support to modify that behaviour through the Pastoral and Behaviour Team.
- Sanctions, if appropriate, will be decided on the individual incidents and circumstances.
- Parents and carers will always be informed of the incident and the outcome.
- After an incident, there must be monitoring to ensure the problem does not re-surface. Experience suggests that bullying will not take place again if students know that they are being monitored.
- In extreme cases, the police will be informed.

8.2 Students

We expect our students to report instances of bullying, no matter how small through the appropriate channels: sharp@hyndburnacademy.org.uk, the Well-Being Box, or to any trusted adult within the academy.

We continuously educate our students on the impact of bullying through assemblies, PSHE curriculum and form-time; it is the responsibility of the student to engage with these opportunities and to ensure others can engage too.

8.3 The Principal and the Governing Body

The principal, held to account by the governing body, must ensure the academy is meeting its duty to prevent bullying in their academy. They must ensure that this statutory policy is reviewed annually and that it is up to date and reflects the most recent advice and legislative framework. The principal has the right to exclude a persistent bully and will do so if they have evidence that the actions of an individual are undermining the safety of others.

8.4 Parents and Carers

We expect parents/carers to work with us in tackling bullying and in upholding our positive culture.

9. Protection for Students, Parents/Carers and Staff

The Hyndburn Academy recognises that bullying can affect not only students but also parents/carers and staff. This policy ensures that all members of the school community are protected from bullying and harassment. Any incidents of bullying directed at parents/carers or staff, including online abuse and intimidation, will be taken seriously and dealt with in accordance with academy policies and relevant legal frameworks. Staff experiencing bullying will be supported through appropriate internal procedures and external professional support where necessary.

We recognise that on occasion instances of bullying occur outside of school; if this happens, we will try to support and protect those involved however, it is important to recognise that behaviour that causes physical, verbal or psychological harm is a criminal offence, and we would advise that such events are reported to the police.

10. Anti-Bullying Strategies

Bullying at our academies will not be tolerated and this message will be reinforced regularly. It is important that tackling bullying is seen as an on-going process which involves all members of the academy community.

10.1 The message will be delivered through

- Year group assemblies from heads of year and senior leaders
- PSHE schemes of work, posters and advice leaflets
- Every form tutor / class teacher
- Form Tutor PowerPoints, internal screens and students' information hubs
- Students should be constantly made aware that we, as an academy, we will not tolerate bullying. They must be continuously told that they should not suffer, and that any member of staff is prepared to help. They should always be encouraged to talk to someone
- Duty staff should be particularly vigilant when patrolling the academy and playgrounds
- Subject teachers will sometimes be able to incorporate an 'anti-bully' message in their lessons, e.g. in literature, drama, discussions of current affairs etc.
- Student buddying, where needed
- Cyber bullying special assemblies and lessons – students to understand the risks of social networking sites and ways to report cyber bullying
- Continuing professional development for all staff

11. Monitoring and Review

This policy is reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness and alignment with current legislation and guidance. Feedback from students, staff, and parents/carers is integral to this process.

By adhering to this policy, The Hyndburn Academy strives to maintain a safe environment, embodying our core values of responsibility, excellence, aspiration, commitment and teamwork.