



Anti- Bullying Policy

Bullying is behaviour that deliberately makes another person feel uncomfortable, distressed or threatened.

Bullying may be repeated over time.

Bullying makes those being bullied feel powerless to defend themselves.

Footsteps is against bullying because:

'Every Child Matters'

- everyone has the right to feel welcome, secure and happy
- we should treat everyone with consideration
- if bullying happens it will be dealt with quickly and effectively
- it is important to tell someone

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at Footsteps Football Academy.

What types of bullying are there?

- Emotional (being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting, threatening behaviour)
- Verbal (name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing)
- Physical (pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence)
- Extortion (demanding money/goods with threats)
- Cyber (all areas of internet, email and internet chatroom misuse.
Mobile threats by text messaging and calls.
Misuse of associated technology ie: camera and video facilities including those on mobile phones.)
- Racist (racial taunts, graffiti, gestures)
- Sexual (unwanted physical contact, sexually abusive comments)
- Homophobic (because of, or focusing on the issue of sexuality)

What are the signs and symptoms of bullying?

A person may indicate by signs or behaviours that they are being bullied. Everyone should be aware of these possible signs and should investigate if the person;

- Is frightened of walking to or from school or changes route

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- Doesn't want to go on the school / public bus
- Begs to be driven to school
- Changes their usual routine
- Is unwilling to go to school (school phobic)
- Begins to truant
- Becomes withdrawn, anxious or lacking in confidence
- Becomes aggressive, abusive, disruptive or unreasonable
- Starts stammering
- Threatens or attempts suicide
- Threatens or attempts self harm
- Threatens or attempts to run away
- Cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- Feels ill in the morning
- Performance in school work begins to drop
- Comes home with clothes torn, property damaged or 'missing'
- Asks for money or starts stealing money
- Has dinner or other monies continually 'lost'
- Has unexplained cuts or bruises
- Comes home 'starving'
- Bullying others
- Changes in eating habits
- Is frightened to say what is wrong
- Afraid to use the internet or mobile phone
- Nervous or jumpy when a cyber message is received
- Gives improbable excuses for their behaviour.

What causes Bullying?

People bully for different reasons.

The reasons could be:

- to feel powerful
- jealousy
- to feel good about themselves
- to be in control
- because they want something (attention, possession or friends)
- to look good in front of other people
- to feel popular
- because of peer pressure
- to be big/clever
- for fun
- because they are being bullied themselves
- because they see and pick on an easy target (small, won't tell anyone, lonely or different in some way)

How can Bullying be prevented?

Footsteps fosters a clear understanding that bullying, in any form, is not acceptable. This is be done by:

- Footsteps Student Bullying contract
- Maintaining an effective anti-bullying policy and practice. Footsteps will then become a safer and happier environment, with consequent improvements in attitudes, behaviour, and relationships and with a positive impact on learning and achievement.
- Regular praise of positive and supportive behaviour by all staff.
- Work in school which develops empathy and emotional intelligence (SEAL).
- Any incidents treated seriously and dealt with immediately.

Why is it important to respond to bullying?

Because Bullying Hurts!

Everybody has the right to be treated with respect.

Everybody has the right to feel happy and safe.

Nobody deserves to be a victim of bullying.

Bullies need to learn different ways of behaving.

Our school will respond promptly and effectively to reported incidents of bullying

Footsteps adheres to the guidance contained in the Govt. document:

Preventing and Tackling Bullying Advice in schools July 2017.

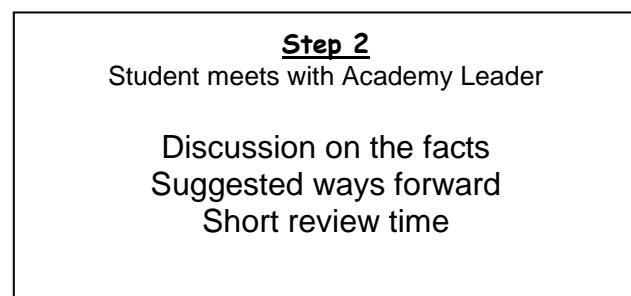
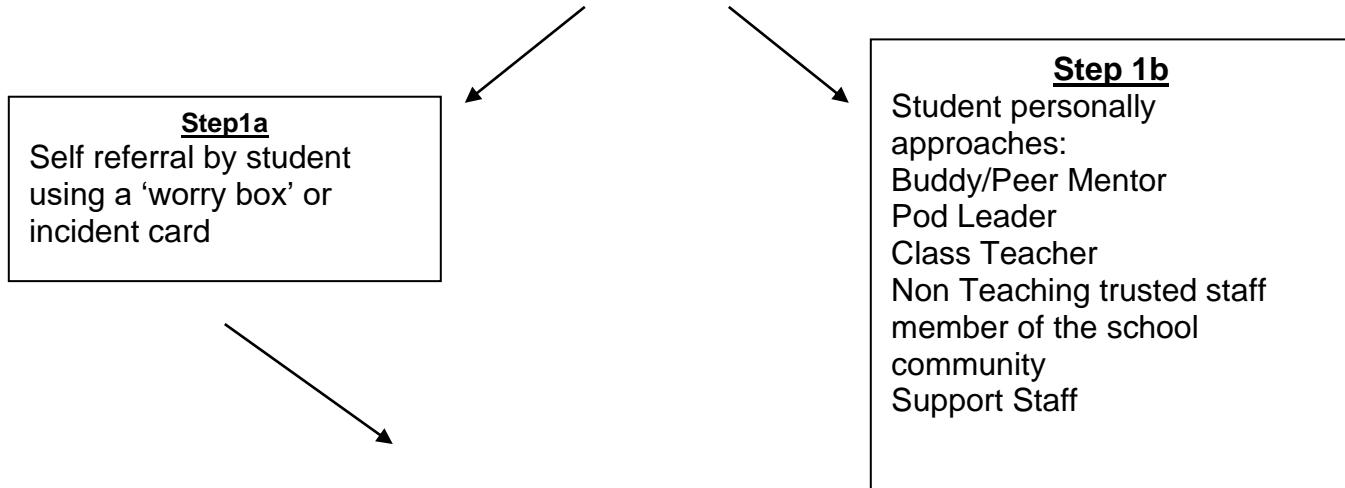
Bullying will not be tolerated.

Footsteps Responses to Bullying

FOOTSTEPS PROCEDURE FOR REPORTING BULLYING

PATHWAYS OF HELP

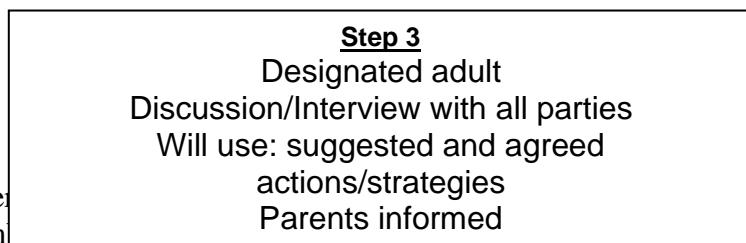
Student is bullied



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If continues

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If continues

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Step 4

Referring Agencies of all parties informed

Senior management (with anti-bullying responsibility) takes responsibility

- Restorative justice
- Mediation/counselling
- Anger management training & self help
- Peer Mentor/Buddy support
- External Agencies
- Circle of friends

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Step 5

Principal and Management to take action

POLICE MAY BECOME INVOLVED

Support Agencies

Anti-bullying Alliance - the alliance brings together over 60 organisations into one network with the aim of reducing bullying. Their website has a parent section with links to recommended organisations who can help with bullying issues

www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Kidscape

www.kidscape.org.uk

02077303300

Childline – advice and stories from children who have survived bullying

08000 1111

Bullying on line

www.bullying.co.uk

Parentline Plus – advice and links for parents www.parentlineplus.org.uk

08088002222

Parents Against Bullying

01928 576152

Useful sources of information

Stonewall - the gay equality organisation founded in 1989. Founding members include Sir Ian McKellen. www.stonewall.org.uk.

Cyberbullying.org - one of the first websites set up in this area, for young people, providing advice around preventing and taking action against cyberbullying. A Canadian based site www.cyberbullying.org

Chatdanger - a website that informs about the potential dangers online (including bullying), and advice on how to stay safe while chatting www.chatdanger.com

Think U Know - the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP), has produced a set of resources around internet safety for secondary schools www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Know IT All for Parents – a range of resources for primary and secondary schools by Childnet International. Has a sample family agreement www.childnet-int.org/kia/parents

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