



Lumsden School
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Policy Statement on Bullying?

The following statement relates to the Aberdeenshire Council Policy for "Bullying" in schools and can be found the school handbook.

What Is Bullying?

Aberdeenshire Council Education and Children's Services define bullying as the following:

Bullying takes place when the actions of an individual or group of people cause harm to someone by taking advantage of an imbalance of power within a relationship (whether perceived or real).

Bullying behaviour can be persistent and/or intentional, but often it is neither. Bullying can be verbal, physical, mental/emotional or cyber and is behaviour and impact. It can be intentional or unintentional, direct or indirect, persistent, or a one off incident. The impact is on a person's ability to feel in control of themselves.

What will the school do about it?

Schools should promote consistency of response to instances of bullying behaviour using a 6 step approach.

They will:

- 1. Record the Incident**
- 2. Speak to the individuals involved having frank and honest dialogue**
- 3. Speak to parents**
- 4. Utilise Restorative approaches**
- 5. Monitor the situation**
- 6. Review and increase response accordingly**

Lumsden Primary position on bullying...

The school is opposed to all forms of bullying behaviour, be this physical, verbal, threatening and intimidating behaviour or ostracism from groups, games or activities.

Children who experience bullying are supported by a range of strategies and resources depending upon the needs of the child and the nature of the incidents. However, please be reassured that incidents of bullying in Lumsden Primary School are dealt with quickly when they come to light.

We believe that a strong, positive school ethos and constant work on building a caring school community, together with close contact with parents, offer the best way forward.

Restorative Approach to Bullying Behaviour

Aberdeenshire Council has a responsibility to protect those being bullied but also to provide an education for all pupils including children who bully or those with behavioural problems. Whilst appropriate action will be taken by the school, it is also important that all parents involved, work with the school to resolve problems in the best interests of their child or young person.

At Lumsden Primary we promote a positive culture which encourages children to think about themselves and others, taking responsibility for their actions. When we become aware of situations we will act in a positive way to support a child who is experiencing bullying behaviour and work with those that are demonstrating bullying behaviour to ensure that their actions are modified. This can sometimes be solved quickly but sometimes may take a longer period. We welcome parents of all those involved in the bullying incident to work with us to resolve situations. We treat each case on an individual basis.

If you feel your child is being bullied or unfairly treated by others, please contact the school as soon as you are aware your child is unhappy. We will discuss the situation with you and formulate an individual plan to deal with the situation and how we will keep you informed of the progress.

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