



Thornborough  
Infant School

# Thornborough Infant School

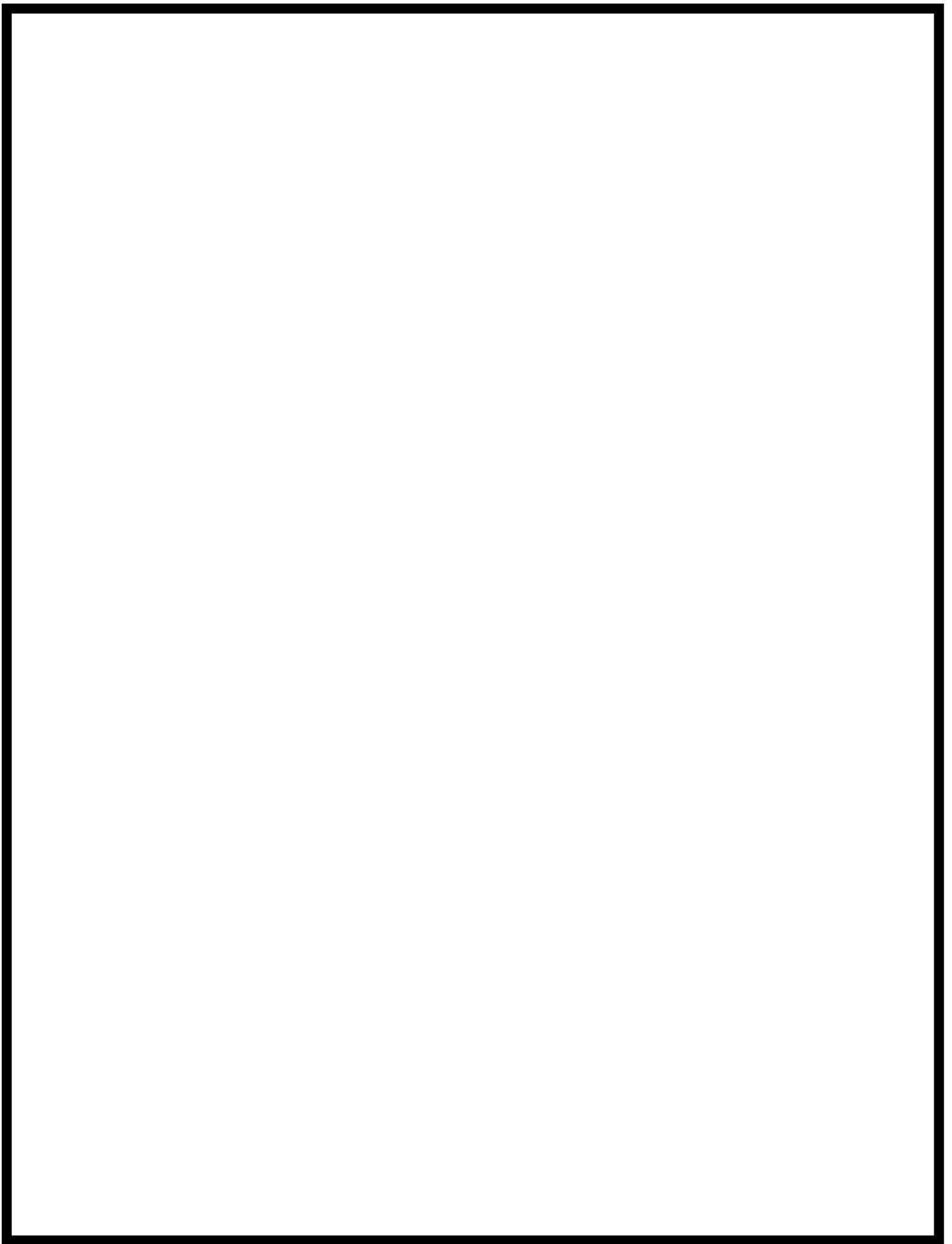
## Anti-Bullying Policy

Signed:  
Headteacher, Miss. O. Quirke

Signed: .....  
Chair of Governors

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## **Introduction**

It's every child's right not to be bullied. Children's rights are unique in that many of them, although designed for the safety and protection of children, have to be provided for by adults and the government.

Although children and young people are covered under the Human Rights Act 1998, their rights are more clearly specified under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

## **What is Bullying?**

Bullying is behaviour by an individual or group, repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally. Bullying can take many forms such as:

- name-calling
- making things up to get someone in trouble, or to turn their friends against them
- hitting, pinching, biting, pushing and shoving
- taking or damaging someone's things
- making threats
- prank calling or messaging
- 'cyberbullying' is when someone scares, intimidates, upsets, or threatens you online – this could be on websites chat functions, via apps, or on social media

Sometimes children and young people bully one another, and sometimes children and young people are bullied by an adult. Bullying is often motivated by prejudice against particular groups, for example on grounds of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, special educational needs or disabilities, or because a child is adopted, in care or has caring responsibilities. It might be motivated by actual differences between children, or perceived differences. (*DfE Preventing and Tackling Bullying 2017*)

## **Types of Bullying**

<b>Cyber-Bullying</b>	Cyberbullying is when someone bullies, threatens or harasses you online. It can happen on social media, games or anywhere else you go online. People might bully you by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• sending nasty or threatening messages</li><li>• posting photos, videos or posts about you online, or liking posts or comments about you</li><li>• trolling you or commenting on your posts or pictures saying nasty things</li><li>• revealing personal details about you online</li><li>• starting a group chat to talk about someone</li><li>• targeting you over and over in an online game.</li></ul>
<b>Emotional</b>	Emotional abuse includes when someone: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• calls you names</li><li>• keeps shouting at you, even if you haven't done anything wrong</li><li>• puts you down</li><li>• ignores you or leaves you out of things</li><li>• says or does things that make you feel bad about yourself</li><li>• makes you feel like you don't belong</li><li>• makes you take responsibility for things you shouldn't have to do until you're older</li><li>• tries to control you or put pressure on you to do things you're not ready to do</li><li>• treats you differently from your brothers or sisters</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• puts you in dangerous situations</li> <li>• is aggressive and violent to other people in your family and you keep seeing it</li> <li>• stops you from having friends.</li> </ul>
<b>Physical</b>	<p>Physical abuse is when someone is hurting you. This could be hurting you with their hands, their feet, or an object. Some examples of physical abuse are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• hitting, smacking and slapping</li> <li>• punching and kicking</li> <li>• pinching, scratching and biting</li> <li>• shaking or suffocating you</li> <li>• scalding or burning you</li> <li>• hair pulling</li> <li>• spitting or throwing things at you</li> <li>• making you swallow something that hurts or makes you feel ill, including giving you medicine when you're not ill or don't need it.</li> </ul>
<b>Sexual</b>	<p>This is treating people differently just because they're female or male. For example, making fun of a girl because you think boys are better than girls. Or saying that boys can't do certain things. Unwanted physical contact.</p>
<b>Homophobic</b>	<p>This is when someone bullies another person because of their sexual orientation. It might include saying that someone is 'gay' or using words like 'gay' as an insult.</p>
<b>Racial</b>	<p>This is treating people differently because of their race, the colour of their skin, where they're from or what they believe in. It includes using offensive words that describe race to bully people.</p>
<b>Vulnerable</b>	<p>This is children with special educational needs or disabilities, those who are adopted, those who are suffering from a health problem or those with caring responsibilities may be more likely to experience bullying because of difference. Children in care that are frequently on the move may also be vulnerable because they are always the newcomer.</p>

### **Aims and Expectations of Thornborough School**

It is everybody's responsibility at Thornborough to protect and safeguard children from bullying behaviour. Any forms of bullying are dealt with very seriously and we expect the following:

#### **Children**

- Be involved in discussing, reviewing and understanding the policy.
- Know what 'Bullying' is, the meaning, and the various forms of bullying.
- Know what to do if they are being bullied in school/at home/outside school/online
- Follow our 'Promises'

#### **Headteacher, Staff and Volunteers**

- Know the children and to recognise any change in behaviours
- Adhere to policies
- Know the meaning of 'bullying' and the various forms
- Create a safe environment for the children
- Listen and treat information seriously and respectfully from any child

#### **Parents**

- Tell the school if you are concern about your child being bullied or is a bully
- Listen
- Know the meaning of 'bullying' and the various forms

## **Governors**

- Support the children/staff/Headteacher
- Be aware of policies and procedures
- To be kept updated (incidents/changes to policy)

Should any incidents occur Parents will be made aware and be invited in to discuss an appropriate response to the situation. We as a school, will always listen to Parents and they will be treated with fairness and equality. It is expected that parents respect the decisions made by the school, and work together to support the children and their wellbeing. When parents, school and children all work together it forms strong relationships and sets clear expectations for all.

## **Anti-Bullying Strategy**

At Thornborough we prevent bullying in the following ways

- Embedding awareness through open discussions with our children the meaning of 'bullying' and the various forms in school/cyber-bullying/at home/outside school
- Assemblies
- Following our School Promises
- Values based education – promoting and adhering to our core values
- Through our curriculum – SMSC embedded in all our lessons
- PSHE curriculum
- Continued awareness through Anti Bullying Week/E-Safety and throughout the year
- Parents signing E-Safety agreements
- Monitoring behaviour of all children
- Worry Monster
- Governor and Staff Training

## **Bullying Outside of School**

Should any incidents occur outside school and be made known to staff/parents or the Headteacher, the Headteacher will follow up and investigate.

## **The Law**

Every school must have measures in place to prevent all forms of bullying.

- The Education and Inspections Act 2006
- The Equality Act 2010
- The Children's Act 1989

Although bullying in itself is not a specific criminal offence in the UK, it is important to bear in mind that some types of harassing or threatening behaviour – or communications – could be a criminal offence, for example under the Protection from Harassment Act 1997, the Malicious Communications Act 1988, the Communications Act 2003, and the Public Order Act 1986.