



Child-on-Child Abuse Policy (Pupil Version)

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Title	Child-on-child Abuse Policy
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Purpose of the policy	Set our Child-on-child Abuse policy for Manchester Hospital School
Related policies/guidance	
Review	
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Under the Public Sector Equality Duty, Manchester Hospital School has due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010; to advance equality of opportunity between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it and to foster good relations across all protected characteristics. Manchester Hospital School will take into account equality considerations when policies are being developed, adopted and implemented.



Manchester Hospital School serves the needs of a very large and diverse range of children, young people and their families at times when they are extremely vulnerable. Our core purpose as a school is to uphold the child's right to Education and our policies and procedures are necessary to keep staff and children safe . We acknowledge that our students are often living with a range of very complex medical conditions including mental ill health and therefore we keep the needs of the student at the heart of all decisions. We will , therefore, work within the parameters of all statutory policies whilst seeking to understand and support the child's long term education and health needs.

Policy for Dealing with child-on-child abuse

This policy applies to all pupils who are supported through Manchester Hospital School across all ages, medical conditions and settings.

1. FEELING SAFE AND HAPPY AT SCHOOL

At Manchester Hospital School, we want you to feel looked after, safe, content and happy when you are in and out of school. Sometimes we might not know if something bad is happening, so you need to tell us.

This policy looks at child-on-child abuse, and what you can do when you feel you are being abused, or when you notice someone else being abused.

We can support you by:

- Teaching you what child-on-child abuse is.
- Teaching you what to do if you feel like you are being abused, or if someone else is being abused.
- Making sure you know you can speak to members of staff if you are worried about anything.

2. WHAT IS CHILD-ON-CHILD ABUSE?

- A child is someone who might be your friend, a young person at school with you, or another young person you may know.

- Abuse is something which usually physically or emotionally hurts another person by using behaviour that is meant to scare, hurt or upset that person; it can be verbal, non-verbal or physical.

Sometimes, it can be hard to know when abuse is happening, because not all abuse will hurt,



scare or upset you, and you might not know it is happening. Therefore it is really important you know when you are being abused so we can make sure it stops.

There are lots of different types of abuse. It is important you know what these types of abuse are so you know what to do if you see them.

3. BULLYING

Bullying can be different things, and isn't just hitting or kicking another person.

Emotional bullying is hurting someone's feelings by making unpleasant or cruel comments, purposely leaving them out or bossing them about.

Physical bullying is punching, kicking, spitting, hitting, pushing someone or any kind of unwanted physical contact meant to harm another person.

Verbal bullying may be: teasing someone, calling them names, using rude hand signs or saying things meaning to intimidate or ridicule in any way. People can also use verbal bullying to be racist, sexist, homophobic or transphobic, which is against the law from the age of 10.

Racist means bullying someone because of their skin colour, race or what they believe in. Homophobic means bullying or a dislike of someone because of their sexuality; calling someone gay or lesbian or other more derogatory terms to hurt their feelings would be homophobic.

Transphobic means bullying or a dislike of someone who is non-binary or transgender (someone who does not identify as either gender or the same gender as the one they were assigned at birth).

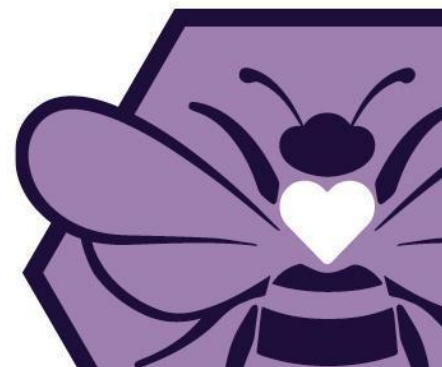
Sexist means bullying someone because of their sex or not complying to gender stereotypes and prejudice.

Cyber bullying involves sending unkind/hurtful/nasty messages over the internet, via social media or by text message with the intent to cause emotional distress or humiliation.

Social isolation means purposely leaving peers out of conversations, activities, exclusion from social activities.

Bullying can take place through another person, by one person sending another person to say hurtful things or by a group of people.

4. SENDING INAPPROPRIATE PICTURES/VIDEOS/MESSAGES



This is sometimes referred to as “sexting” and can sometimes be called ‘nude pics’, ‘rude pics’, ‘nude selfies’ or ‘nudes’, but can also be rude, explicit or inappropriate messages.

Pressuring someone into sending these pictures, videos and messages or sharing them with or without consent is abuse and is illegal.

Even if you are not the person who is sending them, it is illegal to have these kind of pictures or videos of a person if they are under 18 years old on any device.

5. SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sometimes, people can act sexually towards others and it might make them feel uncomfortable. This can happen online, on social media, through messages and face-to-face.

It might make someone feel scared, embarrassed, uncomfortable or upset.

It could be:

- Someone making sexual comments, like telling sexual stories, saying rude things or saying sexual things about someone’s appearance or clothes.
- Calling someone sexual names.
- Sexual jokes or teasing.
- Being physical, like touching which makes you feel uncomfortable, messing with your clothes, or showing pictures or drawings which are of a sexual nature.
- Being sexual online, like sharing sexual pictures and videos, or posting sexual comments on social media.
- It might also be sexual threats or pushing you to do something sexually that you don’t want to or aren’t ready for.

6. RELATIONSHIPS

Any relationship you have should be positive, healthy, happy and consensual (both parties willingly engaging in the relationship). An unhealthy relationship might make someone feel scared, confused, worried and even unsafe.

It is really important that you know the difference between a healthy relationship and an unhealthy relationship.

What healthy relationships look/feel like;

- You are comfortable around that person.
- You can be honest with that person.



- You can say how you feel, what you are thinking and you listen to each other.
- You support each other and treat each other kindly and respectfully.
- You feel safe.
- You trust that person.
- You are equal - you don't boss each other around or tell each other what to do.
- You feel cared about and looked after.
- You feel a sense of mutual respect - there is no power imbalance.

What unhealthy relationships look or feel like;

- The person might push you, hit you, destroy your things or harm you in any way physically or emotionally.
- The person might tell you what to do, what to wear or who you can see.
- You might feel scared - they might say they will hurt you if you do not do something. They might also say they will hurt you if you do something too.
- The person calls you names, makes you feel bad in front of other people and makes you feel bad about yourself.
- The person gets angry easily and you do not know what will make them angry - it might make you feel nervous.
- The person might pressure you to do things you do not want to or aren't ready for, like sex, or using drugs and alcohol.
- The person might not take no for answer when you say you do not want to do something.

7. HOW DO I KNOW IF SOMEONE IS BEING ABUSED?

It might be hard for you to know if you are being abused and you might not really understand it is happening. It is important you can recognise when behaviour is not appropriate.

It is also important that you can notice when someone else might be being abused.

Some signs might be:

- Not going to school.
- Having injuries, like bruises.
- Feeling sad and down.
- Feeling like they can't cope.
- Feeling withdrawn or shy.
- Getting headaches or stomach ache.
- Feeling nervous.
- Not being able to sleep, sleeping too much or having nightmares.
- Feeling panicked.
- Using alcohol or drugs.
- Changing looks to look much older.



- Being abusive to someone else.

Remember: you can feel all of these things too. Listen to how you feel, and know that these signs can mean you are being abused.

8. WHAT DO I DO IF I SEE SOMEONE ELSE BEING ABUSED?

If you see someone else being abused, it is important that you help that person.

You should never walk away and ignore the problem if you see someone else being abused, because the person might keep upsetting them.

If you can, and it is safe to do so, tell the person abusing you to stop, but never get angry or hit them.

Tell an adult, such as a staff member or trusted adult, as soon as you've seen someone being abused.

Staff can stop the abuse and make that person feel happy again.

You should never feel scared to tell someone about abuse.

Sometimes, you might not see someone being abused, but you might be worried about them. Or, you might think they are being abused by someone you do not know, or someone they have told you about. It is really important you tell someone even if you are worried, but haven't seen any abuse.

9. WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I AM BEING ABUSED?

The first thing you should do is tell someone you trust. This could be a family member, a friend, a teacher or another trusted adult.

You can also tell the person abusing you to leave you alone. If telling them to leave you alone would make you feel too scared or worried that they might hurt you, make sure you tell someone so they can help.

You should try to:

- Ignore and not do what the person says.
- Not let what the person says or does upset you.
- Not get angry or hit them.
- Distance yourself from the other person.

Always remember that if you are being abused, it is not your fault and you are never alone.

You should not be scared to talk to someone if you are being abused. If you talk to a member of staff, we can help stop the abuse.

10. WHO CAN I TALK TO?

It is important you tell someone as soon as you are being abused, or you notice someone else



being abused.

Speaking to someone like your mum, dad, carer or teacher will mean that we can make sure the abuse stops and doesn't happen again.

11. HOW CAN I HELP STOP ABUSE HAPPENING?

We can all help stop abuse at our school by:

- Making sure we understand how we should act towards others.
- Helping others when they are in need.
- Being kind, friendly and respectful to others.
- Thinking about people's feelings before we say or do something.
- Taking part in school activities, like assemblies and PSHE lessons
- Talking to someone when we are worried.

You should know that abuse is never OK and it is serious. It is not funny, or part of growing up. If you abuse someone, you will receive a serious sanction in-line with our school's behaviour policy.

