

17<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parents,

I am pleased to share with you our new Anti-Bullying Policy, coinciding with this week's National Anti-Bullying Campaign.

Over the last couple of weeks some of the governors and I have been consulted extensively with the following groups to ensure that the policy has been informed by our whole school community:

#### **Staff**

Every member of staff was given the opportunity to contribute to the writing and editing of the policy.

#### **School Council**

The School Council was asked for its views on the 'Child Friendly' version of the policy and made some helpful suggestions.

#### **All children**

All the children received a 'Child Friendly' presentation (with the help of the School Council) of the policy in a couple of whole school and class assemblies, and were given the opportunity to make comments, suggestions, and ask questions, all of which were taken into account in the final draft.

#### **Pupil Safeguarding Anti-Bullying Questionnaire**

This was carried out with all the children from Year 1 to Year 6 by Karen Armeanu (Chair of Governors) and Jenny MacDonald (Vice Chair). This provided an excellent, more confidential insight into what the children thought about unkind, mean and bullying behaviours and how the school manages them. Overall, they were very reassured by the responses and discussions with the children. Where appropriate and necessary, Karen and Jenny met 1-2-1 with children who had expressed any concerns or worries. The final policy was edited further to take into account their work with the children.

#### **Parent Working Group**

A selection of families from across the school were given a copy of the draft policy and either made comments in writing or attended a meeting to discuss the document. Their feedback was valuable and led to some further additions and amendments.

#### **Governors**

All governors received a copy of the policy and provided good support and challenge about its content.

So, I am confident in the knowledge that the policy I share with you today, is one created out of true collaboration and input from the whole of the school community and most likely to reduce unkind, mean, and bullying behaviours in the future.

Kind regards,

Andrew Denham