



Bullying

Bullying Position

At St Matthew's School we have an expectation that everyone is treated with respect and dignity. We believe that every child has the right to feel safe.

Definition

Bullying is a deliberate, ongoing intention to hurt, threaten, intimidate or embarrass someone. Bullying is:

- A repetitive attack that causes distress not only at the time of the attack, but also by the threat of future attacks
- It is characterised by an imbalance of power
- It can be verbal, physical, social or psychological

When a person is repeatedly hit, punched or pushed around, called hurtful or offensive names, threatened etc., then he or she is being bullied.

It is not bullying when two people of about the same strength have the odd fight or quarrel.

To be considered bullying, it must be ongoing and intentional. This does not imply that fights and arguments are acceptable.

At St Matthew's bullying is not tolerated. Each incident is dealt with individually.