

Rothwell Schools

Child-Friendly Child-on-Child Abuse Policy



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Feeling safe at Rothwell Schools

At Rothwell schools, we want to make sure you feel safe, secure and happy.

Sometimes we don't know if something is worrying you or that something has happened so you need to talk to us.

This policy looks at child-on-child abuse and what you can do if you are being abused or you see or think someone else is being abused.

Throughout school, we will:

- Teach you so you know what child-on-child abuse is.
- We will help you to understand what you need to do if you are being abused or someone else is.
- We will encourage you to **SPEAK OUT** so that we can stop it from happening.



What is child-on-child abuse?

1

Child-on-child abuse may happen at school or outside of school. It could happen between one child and another or a group of children and another.

Abuse is something which usually physically or emotionally hurts another person by using behaviour that is meant to scare, hurt or upset that person.

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. It's 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.

2

What is bullying?

Bullying can be different things and is not just hitting and kicking another person.

Emotional bullying is hurting someone's feelings, leaving them out or bossing them about. It is when someone continues to make you feel sad, upset or worried over time.



Physical bullying is kicking, punching, hitting and hurting someone else.

Verbal bullying is teasing someone, calling them names or using rude hand signs. People can also use verbal bullying to be racist or homophobic.

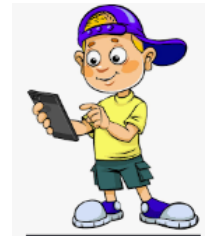
Racist means bullying someone because of their skin colour, race or what they believe in.

Homophobic means bullying someone because of their gender or sexuality; calling someone gay or lesbian to hurt their feelings would be homophobic.

Sexist means bullying someone because of their sex (whether they are a boy or a girl)



Cyber bullying is bullying that takes place on a computer. This includes phones, tablets, game consoles and any other sort of technology. It involves sending horrible messages to people through the internet or via a text message.



3

Nudes or semi-nudes also known as sexting

Sexting refers to sending inappropriate pictures, videos or messages. They could be called 'rude pictures' 'nude pictures' 'naked selfies' It can also be rude messages using inappropriate language.

Pressurising people to do these things when they don't want to is also abuse and should be reported to an adult.

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



4

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:

1. Saying rude things to others or telling rude stories. They may comment on your appearance using sexual words.
2. Name calling which has a sexual nature.
3. Sexual jokes
4. It could be that you feel threatened that if you don't do something sexual then you will be physically hurt.
5. It could be sexting.
6. It could be someone touching you, making you feel uncomfortable.

5

Relationships

At Rothwell Schools we want you to know and understand that there are good and bad relationships and we want you to be aware of the signs of both types. Relationships should make us feel comfortable, happy and good. They should not make us feel unhappy, scared, angry or worried. We should always feel safe in a relationship.

Good relationships

- 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 nicely.
- 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 looked after.

Unhealthy or bad relationships



- The person might push you, hit you or destroy your things.
- 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 don't 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 don't know what will make them angry – it might make you feel nervous.
- The person might pressure you to do things you don't 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 don't want to do something.

6

How do I know if someone is being abused?

Some signs to look out for to protect yourself and your friends:

- Having butterflies in your tummy, feeling sick or worried.
- Missing school
- A change in how you are feeling. Feelings of sadness, being worried, scared or anxious. Feeling like you just can't cope anymore.
- Feeling tired.
- Having headaches
- Feelings of anger leading to you being mean and abusing others.
- Changing how you look

Remember it can happen to you.

You may not realise it is happening or you may be confused or unsure of what is happening. It is ok. Please talk to someone who can help you to understand what is happening. You may just know something is not right.

We are here to help!



Mrs G Harvey
DSL



Mrs M Barker
DDSL



Mrs B. Leder
DDSL



Mrs N Cross
DDSL



Mrs C Fallady
DDSL



Mrs A O'Neil
DDSL



Mrs M Van-Davies
DDSL



What should I do if I am being abused or someone I know is being abused?

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

Please, please, please find an adult to talk to. Adults can help the abuse to stop.

Never walk away and ignore it.

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 not to:

- Do what the person says.
- Let what the person says or does upset you.
- Get angry or hit them.

Always remember that if you are being abused, **it is not your fault** and you are **never** alone. You shouldn't be scared to talk to someone if you are being abused. If you talk to a grown-up, we can make the abuse stop.



Who can I tell?

Leaders of Rothwell Schools



Mrs G Harvey
DSL



Mrs M Barker
DDSL



Mrs B. Leder
DDSL



Mrs N Cross
DDSL



Mrs C Fallady
DDSL



Mrs A O'Neil
DDSL



Mrs M Van-Davies
DDSL

- Class teachers or another adult working in school.
- People who look after us at home
- A trusted adult.
- A friend.

We want everyone at Rothwell Schools to feel happy, safe and secure.

If in doubt...report it!

