



The Lewis School/Yr Ysgol Lewis Anti Bullying Policy/Polisi Gwrth-fwlio 2026-2027

Signed (Chair of Governors)	
Signed (Headteacher)	
Reviewed (date)	July 2026
Adopted (date)	July 2026

The Lewis School Anti Bullying Policy

Introduction

The Lewis School is committed to providing a caring and safe setting for all of our pupils. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable. No member of our community should be made to feel unhappy or unsafe. We take responsibility for helping our pupils understand what bullying is and the harm it can cause. If bullying does occur, all pupils should be able to report and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. Everyone has the right to expect support and action where their happiness and safety are threatened.

This policy outlines the processes for prevention and response to pupil bullying in our school and reflects the Welsh Assembly Government Circular: [Challenging Bullying. Rights, Respect, Equality: Statutory Guidance for Maintained Schools. 06.11.19](#)

This policy sits within the Emotional Health and Wellbeing Protocol and should also be read in conjunction with the Behaviour, Travel, E-safety, Strategic Equality Plan and Safeguarding policy. The policy is developed, evaluated and reviewed by pupils, staff and governors and will be implemented by the whole school community. As our school moves towards the Curriculum for Wales, 2022, development of the Health and Well-being AoLE supports the holistic and pro-social development of each learner, including the development of positive relationships.

Appendices to provide extra information on accessing help from outside agencies supplement this policy.

Overall aims

The aim of this policy is two-fold, namely to prevent bullying from taking place and to explain how we will respond to bullying when this does occur, and how we will monitor our practice to ensure effectiveness. Furthermore, the policy will aim to support those affected by bullying and to address the behaviour of those carrying out the bullying. All members of the school have a responsibility to recognise bullying when it occurs and take appropriate action according to the school policy.

- The school will meet the legal requirement for all schools to have an anti-bullying policy in place.
 - The ethos of the school should promote mutual respect and considerate behaviour.
 - All members of the school community will have an understanding of what bullying is.
 - All pupils and parents/carers know what they can do if bullying occurs.
 - There should be clear procedures for reporting bullying
 - The school will work closely with other professional agencies to ensure that children stay safe
- Key terms- the Power of Language**

Under the terms of the Welsh Government guidance on bullying¹, the terms ‘target’ and ‘perpetrator’ will be used, rather than ‘victim’ and ‘bully’, since neither of these latter terms are helpful in addressing bullying behaviour.

1. What is bullying?

The Lewis School adopts the definition stated in Welsh Government guidance as follows:

“Bullying is behaviour by an individual or group, usually repeated over time, that intentionally hurts others, either physically or emotionally.”²

Bullying is a complex issue that remains a key influence on young people’s well-being. Bullying can feed into, or be fed by adverse childhood experiences, (A.C.E). The school’s approach to bullying behaviour is driven by an awareness of these factors. As such the school will seek to put in place appropriate interventions for both targets and perpetrators of bullying.

“Bullying is expressed through a range of hurtful behaviour: it can happen face-to-face or in the digital environment. It can be carried out by an individual or group but is generally executed in front of an audience to assert power or popularity. It may involve an element of secrecy so that adults are not aware of it.”³ Bullying can be direct or indirect, emotional, physical, verbal, relational, sexual or driven by prejudice. Bullying behaviour can be linked to vulnerable pupils, including those with special educational needs and disabilities.

Bullying can involve pupils, staff and visitors, and may occur outside the school grounds, including travel to and from school. In such cases, the Head teacher is empowered by law to deal with these incidents according to the school policy. At The Lewis School we are concerned with our pupils’ conduct and welfare outside as well as inside school and we will do what we can to address any bullying issues that occur off the school premises. This may mean recommending parents contact the police.

Where cases of bullying present a safeguarding concern, the school will act within the safeguarding policy by reporting concerns on to the L.A social services team.

Bullying is NOT the occasional falling out with friends, name-calling, arguments or when the occasional trick or joke is played on someone. It is an important part of children’s development to learn how to deal with friendship breakdowns, the odd name-calling or childish prank and to develop social skills to repair relationships.

In the event of a one-off instance of hate crime, unless the behaviour is repeated, it may not be classed as bullying, but it is, nevertheless, criminal behaviour, which will be addressed through the school’s behaviour and ‘Prevent’ policy. If considered necessary, the school would inform the police.

2, Responding to Bullying

Recognising signs & symptoms:

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Bullying is never the fault of the target. A pupil may show signs or behaviour that he or she is being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and investigate as appropriate. These signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated. The young person may

- be anxious about getting to or from school
- be unwilling to go to school (school phobic) or begin to truant
- become withdrawn, anxious, have disturbed sleep or lack confidence
- start stammering
- attempt or threaten suicide or run away
- begin to do poorly in school work
- come home with clothes, books and possessions damaged or “missing”
- Continually “lose” dinner or other monies
- have unexplained cuts or bruises
- become aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- bully other children or siblings
- be anxious when using the internet or mobile phone

Action to be taken by pupils:

You are not alone and bullying behaviour is not your fault.

If you are being bullied:

- Get away from the situation quickly
- Tell someone as soon as you can.

If you have been bullied:

- Tell someone you can trust – it can be a teacher, a teaching assistant, lunchtime supervisor, parent, mentor, friend, brother, sister or a relative.
- If you are scared to tell someone by yourself, ask a friend to come with you.
- Use the in-school well-being facility. You can arrange to meet with an anti-bullying ambassador by telling your tutor, or a member of the well-being team.

When you are talking to an adult or mentor about the bullying be clear about

- What has happened to you
- How often it has happened
- Who was involved
- Who saw it happening
- Where it happened
- What you have done about it so far.

Don't suffer in silence. If you find it difficult to talk to anyone in school or at home you can call Childline on 0800 1111

What can you do if you see someone else being bullied? (The role of the bystander)

Bullying affects everyone. We can only beat bullying if we support each other when bullying happens. If you see someone being bullied, please do not ignore it. Staying

silent can make the perpetrator of bullying feel stronger and encourage them to continue. There are ways you can help without putting yourself in danger.

- Report what you have seen
- Avoid smiling or laughing at the situation.
- Resist any pressure to join in.
- If possible, encourage the perpetrator to stop bullying. Don't take on the perpetrator yourself.
- Be friendly and reassuring towards the person being bullied.
- Take the person who has been bullied with you to seek support, or encourage the person to talk to someone and get help.
- Witnessing bullying can be upsetting. If you are upset by what you see, talk to someone.

3. Recording and Reporting Incidents

All staff will respond immediately and consistently to all allegations and incidents of bullying. Incidents will be taken seriously by staff and dealt with impartially and promptly. All those involved will have the opportunity to be heard. The following procedure will be used for reporting and responding to bullying allegations or incidents:

1. Report all bullying allegations and incidents to staff.
2. Staff will listen carefully and record the incident using the My Concern platform.
3. Dedicated staff will speak about the incident separately to all children involved.
4. The problem will be identified and possible solutions suggested.
5. Staff will attempt to adopt a problem-solving approach that will move children on from them having to justify their behaviour.
6. Appropriate action will be taken quickly to end the bullying behaviour or threats of bullying.
7. Staff will reinforce to the perpetrator that their behaviour is unacceptable. Steps will be taken, and support given, to help the perpetrator(s) understand and change their behaviour.
8. The perpetrator will offer an apology. Other consequences may ensue, including appropriate support and appropriate sanctions applied in line with the school behaviour policy.
9. If possible, the pupils will be reconciled.
10. In cases of proven bullying, incidents will be recorded on SIMs.
11. In serious cases parents will be informed and will be invited to come into school for a meeting to discuss the problem.
12. Each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place. The case of bullying will not be considered resolved simply because an intervention has been completed, if the outcome is not successful.
13. Bullying incidents will be discussed regularly at staff meetings.
14. If necessary and appropriate, the Child Protection Officer in school, Social Services or police will be consulted.

4. Strategies for the prevention and reduction of bullying

Whole school initiatives and proactive teaching strategies will be used throughout the school to develop a positive learning environment, with the aim of preventing bullying behaviour. These include:

- Well-being scheme of work supports this policy and develops awareness of rights, recognising and challenging prejudice in all its forms, including LGBTQ+, building inclusivity, assertiveness, resilience and self-confidence.
- Awareness-raising activities through tutorial time and anti-bullying assemblies.
- Making national Anti-Bullying week a high profile event each year.
- Training and supporting peer mentoring schemes to develop pupil led initiatives
- Regular staff training to ensure that the procedures are followed in reporting allegations of bullying or racial incidents.
- Bullying issues will be explored in other curricular areas
- The whole school community will be encouraged to model appropriate behaviour towards one another.
- A support network of appropriate interventions will be provided to support vulnerable pupils.

5. Online Bullying

The impact of online bullying can be powerful and long-lasting. This policy recognises the different dynamics associated with online bullying, such as disinhibition, anonymity and an invasion of privacy. As learners develop their digital competence, the school will take measures to protect them from online bullying and educate them on acceptable use. The investigation and reporting of online bullying incidents may require the school to draw on the safeguarding policy.

6. Monitoring and Review

The measures put in place to prevent, address and reduce bullying can be monitored against such metrics as the SHRN School Student Health Behaviour survey, undertaken every two years, which provides data on pupil experience of bullying and wider well-being. Further to this, the school community will be regularly consulted on their views regarding the prevalence and nature of bullying, and ways in which strategies can be improved. This will occur through such means as student surveys and focus work during Wellbeing lessons and discussion with the anti-bullying ambassador team. The effectiveness of this policy will be reviewed annually by the Senior Leadership Team and by the governing body within the Governors' policy review schedule.

Questionnaires completed by the whole school, together with surveys, focus groups, parents'/guardians' responses and bullying incident reports will be used to gauge the effectiveness of the policy.

Following an annual review any amendments will be made to the policy and everyone informed. An annual report will be issued to governors and parents and the policy will be made available to all parents.

Appendices

Appendix 1 Forms of Bullying

Bullying can be:

- Emotional
 - being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures)
- Physical
 - pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Verbal
 - name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- Racist
 - racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Sexual
 - unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
- Homophobic
 - because of, or focusing on the issue of sexuality
- Linked to special educational needs and disabilities.
 - the expression of negative attitudes, being seen as “different”, harassment, isolation

Appendix 2

Access to Advice and Guidance from Outside Agencies

There is a vast amount of information and guidance available about bullying that can provide a wide range of support and help. The following list is just a small selection of the support available.

Name of Organisation	Telephone Number	web address
Act Against Bullying	0845 230 2560	http://www.actagainstbullying.org/
Advisory Centre for Education (ACE)	0207 704 3370	http://www.ace-ed.org.uk/
Anti-Bully		http://www.antibully.org.uk/
Anti-Bully Alliance (ABA)	0207 843 1901	http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/
Anti-bullying Network	0131 651 6103	http://www.antibullying.net/
Bully Free Zone	01204 454 958	http://www.bullyfreezone.co.uk/
Bullying Online	020 7378 1446	http://www.bullying.co.uk/
Bullies Out	2920492169	http://www.bulliesout.com/
BBC		www.bbc.co.uk
Childline	0800 1111	http://www.childline.org.uk/Pages/Home.aspx

Name of Organisation	Telephone Number	web address
Family Lives	0808 800 2222	http://familylives.org.uk/
Heads Above the Waves		
Kidscape	020 7730 3300 or 08451 205 204	http://www.kidscape.org.uk/
Kooth		www.kooth.com
Meic		www.meiccymru.org
NSPCC	0207 825 2500	http://www.nspcc.org.uk/
Parentzone		www.parentzone.org.uk
The Diana Award		www.antibullyingpro.com
Welsh Assembly Government		http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/schoolshome/wellbeing/antibullying/?lang=en
Wisekids	01633 673339	http://www.wisekids.org.uk/
Young Minds	Tel: 0808 802 5544 (parents'/carers' helpline)	www.youngminds.org.uk