

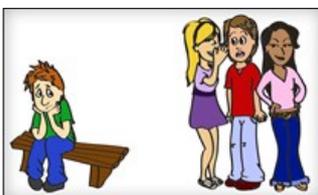
# ANTI-BULLYING STATEMENT

At Ramillies Hall School and Nursery, we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children, in line with the duty placed on us by Sections 157 and 175 of the Education Act, 2002. We expect and require all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We strongly believe that all children have the right to feel safe and to be protected from physical, sexual or emotional abuse and neglect.

## WHAT IS BULLYING?

*'Bullying is behaviour by an individual or group, repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally. Bullying can take many forms (for instance, cyber-bullying via text messages or the internet), and is often motivated by prejudice against particular groups, for example on grounds of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or because a child is adopted or has caring responsibilities. It might be motivated by actual differences between children, or perceived differences. Stopping violence and ensuring immediate physical safety is obviously a school's first priority but emotional bullying can be more damaging than physical; teachers and schools have to make their own judgements about each specific case.'*

It can be:



**Emotional** - ignoring, excluding, tormenting, spreading rumours, sending unkind or threatening notes or texts



**Verbal** - name-calling, teasing



**Physical** - hitting, kicking, hiding or taking belongings, deliberately damaging other people's work or possessions.



**Cyber-bullying** - using social websites, mobile phones, text messages, photographs and emails. Under the Malicious Communications Act 1988, it is an offence for a person to send an electronic communication to another person with the intent to cause distress or anxiety, or to send an electronic communication which conveys a message which is indecent or grossly offensive, a threat, or information which is false and known or believed to be false by the sender.

If you are being bullied, or you know that someone else is, please tell a member of staff straight away. This will not make things worse for you. If you do not tell, the bully can't be stopped, and may bully others too.

**BULLYING IS NOT ACCEPTABLE AT RAMILLIES, AND WE ALL NEED TO WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR SCHOOL IS FREE FROM BULLYING AND BULLIES.**