



College Park School Policy on dealing with any incidents of bullying

Aims

We aim to stop any behaviour that intimidates, frightens or upsets another child. Where any such incidents occur, we will deal with it in order to reduce the likelihood of it happening again.

Implementation

Although due to their individual needs very few of our children would deliberately try to hurt or upset another child, they may be aware of cause and effect, and notice that if they do something to a particular child they will get a particular response. Given that our children like to elicit familiar responses, this can occur, and such behaviour may cause upset or feelings of intimidation to another child in a way that is not acceptable.

Examples of these sorts of behaviour might be:

- Shouting, making noises or screaming in order to get a certain effect from another child
- Getting too close to a child who is likely to lash out if their close personal space is invaded

In order to stop such behaviour we would use the following strategies as appropriate to the pupil:

- Explain the consequences to the child and teach them to be more aware of the needs of others
- Separate children into different groups within the class or playground where possible
- Use social stories and social groupings to explain how to interact more appropriately and safely with peers
- Use visual prompts at all times

Many of our children have a special interest, and we accept these interests and make use of them in our teaching in school. The only sort of special interest that we would discourage would be if a child had a special interest in another child.

We involve parents/carers in any incidents that are of concern, being careful to let them know that we understand that they may stem from misunderstanding caused by autism, and yet they must be discouraged for the well-being of the other children.