

Holywood's Vision Statement:

Confident, Creative Learners with Big Ambitions. Kind to Each Other. Kind to the Planet.

At Holywood our aim is:

For staff, parents and other agencies to work together to ensure our learners are part of a creative and innovative team.

To offer valuable learning experiences that engage our learners and develop their self-confidence, resilience, and independence.

To create a school ethos where our learners feel safe and which fosters co-operation, respect and friendship.

To provide our learners with opportunities to understand the wider world and develop their skills for work and life in order to help them achieve their full potential.

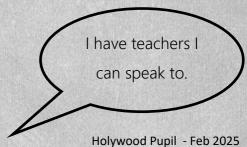


Values we promote throughout Holywood and the wider community are:

Teamwork - Responsibility; Honesty; Co-operation; Inclusion; Respect; Friendship

Independence - Self-confidence; Effort; Resilience

Individuality and Creativity - Self belief



All children have rights, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) ensures children rights are protected and met. Holywood is a Rights Respecting School (Bronze level) and we are continuously developing our understanding and learning to ensure these rights are being met. All of the articles are important to our school ethos but the following are particularly relevant to our behaviour and anti-bullying policy:

- Article 2- All children have these rights no matter who they are. No child should be treated unfairly on any basis.
- Article 12- All children have the right to give their opinion and for adults to listen and take it seriously.
- Article 13- All children have the right to find out things and share what you think with others, by talking, drawing, writing or in any other way (unless it harms or offends other people)
- Article 19-All children have the right to feel protected from being hurt and mistreated in body or in mind.
- Article 29- Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full, encouraging the child's respect for human rights, for their parents, cultures and environment.

Supporting Positive Relationships and Behaviour at Holywood:

We understand the importance positive relationships can have in creating a happy and safe ethos at school as well as helping to prevent bullying behaviour occurring. Our whole school events such as Big Read, Big Woodland Breaks, Business Groups, Bike Breakfast and the Week in the Woods all encourage positive relationships across the year groups as well as helping to foster a sense of collaboration and compassion for others. Parental engagement has a big role to play in our learning community and to make our events a success.



Our strategies to support positive behaviour and relationships include: the establishment of class charters created with our learners, acknowledging and praising good behaviour choices and being consistent and fair with our approach. All adults in school model being respectful and kind to others. Our learners have a clear and loud voice in the Ethos and Life of our school. Having ownership of their school encourages learners to be more motivated and to take responsibility for their learning and progress.

I find that Big Thursday allows the children to all be included.

This encourages different ranges of relationships with the older and younger children and makes them work together.

Holywood feels more like a family, than just a school.

Holywood Parents,

2024

Teaching kids to be respectful of each other, I feel Holywood does this very well. The kids seem to be confident and able to express themselves.

At Holywood we have high expectations for our learners and they understand the importance of respect for each other, for staff in school as well as their school environment and resources. The P3-7 learners take part in business groups, some of which are specifically for the maintenance and care of the school, for example: watering plants, keeping communal areas such as the reading hub tidy, helping to maintain and look after playground equipment. Other groups are involved with leading events happening throughout the year, writing a school newspaper and a pupil council group which has had a big input in promoting an anti-bullying group. These groups give the pupils a voice which is felt throughout the school ethos and continues to develop shared ownership and responsibility.

'Developing good relationships and positive behaviour in the classroom, playground and wider community is essential for creating the right environment for effective learning and teaching. Where children and young people feel included, respected, safe, and secure and when their achievements and contributions are valued and celebrated, they are more likely to develop self-confidence, resilience, and positive views about themselves. This applies equally to all staff in the learning community.' (Better relationships, better learning, better behaviour, 201338).

Consequences for Negative/Disruptive Behaviour

There can be occasions when pupils choose negative behaviour or disruptive behaviour, this is dealt with in different ways based on the context and the behaviour. Here are some examples of how it may be dealt with in class/school:

- In class sanctions, based on age, such as: verbal warnings, taking a minute to stop and think, time out, or support class.
- Discussion with a member of the leadership team (Principal Teacher, Head teacher)
- Discussion with Parents / Carers

If there are issues with behaviour in the playground there are a different set of sanctions such as:

A verbal warning or 5 minutes on the time out bench, time in at the office and a discussion with a staff member. If a pupil is choosing to interrupt the rights of others to play or being dangerous / unsafe, then a playground phase out programme may need to be set up in discussion with parents / carers.

Anti-Bullying Approach at Holywood

Holywood is an inclusive school that recognises that each child is an individual and has different strengths and weaknesses. We want every child to feel part of the school community and that our school is somewhere they can feel safe and welcomed. This means we take a firm stance against bullying behaviour, with help from the learners and parents we have devised our policy to ensure bullying is dealt with effectively.

What Is Bullying?

This behaviour can include:

- Being called names, teased, put down or threatened face to face and/or online
- · Being hit, tripped, pushed or kicked
- · Having belongings taken or damaged
- Being ignored, left out or having rumours spread about you (face to face and/or online)
- Sending abusive messages, pictures or images on social media, online gaming platforms or phone
- Behaviour which makes people feel like they are not in control of themselves or their lives

If I feel bullied I know the teacher will take action and talk to the person.

Holywood Pupil, 2024

How we deal with bullying behaviour in school:

Discuss promptly with the pupil(s) involved to find out all the information and the effect the behaviour has had.

Speak to parents of children to inform of how their child is involved.

As we are a team it is important to address the issue with a whole school approach and discuss/ readdress our school values.

Sanction for the behaviour depending on the issue.

If you or your child are worried about bullying please get in touch with you're a class teacher, Principal Teacher or the Head teacher to discuss your concerns.

What is the Role of Our Parents?

Part of our TEAM:

The parents and families at Holywood Primary play a huge role in our school community and help us with our aim of creating a school environment where parents, children and staff feel safe and respected.

What can parents do to help continue to be a valuable part of our school community and support with our anti-bullying policy?

- Be aware of anti-bullying policies and practice in any school/clubs/groups attended by your child or young person.
- Share any concerns about your child with the school staff
- Work in partnership with the school staff to solve issues
- Support/ join the Holywood Parent Council to add further input to our anti-bullying policy.
- Model treating people with fairness and respect both face to face and online.

To support the development of this policy we conducted a survey with Holywood parents for them to share their thoughts on the way we currently deal with bullying and negative behaviour:

- Most parents felt that they were clear on who and how to report any issues with bullying or negative behaviour to.
- Parents said that they felt comfortable coming to talk to members of staff about any issues.
- Most parents understood the role they could take in helping with our anti-bullying approach by modelling with their own behaviour.
- Most parents said they felt staff at Holywood were approachable and the school was welcoming and friendly.

What is the responsibility of our staff?

At Holywood the staff work together to provide a consistent and fair approach for all learners. Building and maintaining positive relationships is the responsibility of all staff. Staff model expected behaviour and this sets the tone in all learning contexts and supports the ethos and climate of the school.

Our clear behaviour expectations and our positive relationships with pupils and parents allow us to provide creative learning experiences.

I feel supported by the whole staff team. I know that I can talk to or ask my colleagues for advice. This support network helps build a positive work ethos in school.

Holywood staff team members, 2025

Head teacher, 2025

As a staff team we feel well supported by parents and families when dealing with any issues that may arise.

All staff take shared responsibility for modelling behaviour expectations in all school environments—in class, the playground, dinner hall, in the woodland and during small group work.

Useful links for more guidance:

https://www.unicef.org.uk/rights-respecting-schools/

https://www.respectme.org.uk/

https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/tools-information/advice-and-support/if-youre-being-bullied/find-help-and-support

https://www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/

https://www.childline.org.uk/get-support/