



# **Respectful Relationships and Anti-Bullying: statement for Children / Young People in Morebattle and Yetholm Primary Schools**

## **Scottish Borders Council Vision**

It is our vision that all learning establishments are safe, respectful and nurturing environments where bullying behaviour is never acceptable. It is therefore critical that those who play a role in the lives of children and young people in the Scottish Borders are equipped to prevent and respond effectively to incidents of bullying behaviour. Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) in the Scottish Borders ensures that the child and their family are at the centre of policy and practice and that the views of the child, young person and their parents/carers are sought, listened to and taken into account when decisions are being made.

## **Policy statement purpose**

In the Scottish Borders, learning establishments promote respectful relationships approaches.

This document builds on SBC:INCLUDES Respectful Relationships and Anti-bullying Policy and outlines the steps that will be undertaken in *Morebattle and Yetholm Primaries* to provide guidance to staff, parents/carers and children/young people on the prevention and management of bullying behaviour. Our aim is to make *Morebattle and Yetholm Primaries* a safe, respectful and nurturing environment where bullying behaviour is never acceptable.

# Raising awareness and prevention

## Staff and Volunteers

In addition to promoting and role modelling respectful relationships and positive behaviour, all staff and volunteers in *Morebattle and Yetholm Primaries* with a responsibility for children/young people will participate in the training and development listed below:

*In the coming year (2023-24) all school staff will complete the following training through INSET or CAT sessions.*

*Respectme online training modules:*

- *Why address bullying?*
- *Defining and recognising bullying behaviour*
- *Preventing bullying: Policy and Practice*
- *Responding to bullying.*

*Stage 1 E-learning module from LGBT Inclusive Education.*

*Revisit "Restorative Approaches" training.*

*Nurturing Approaches- SBC training on each principle.*

## Pupils

In *Morebattle and Yetholm Primaries* we actively and openly talk about and discuss bullying behaviour.

Listed below are the strategies / resources, which will be used to raise the children/young people's awareness and prevent bullying:

*Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood (RSHP)*

*Building Resilience assemblies and follow up class material*

*Nurturing Approaches*

*Rights Respecting Schools including classroom charters at times where appropriate/ necessary.*

*NSPCC input*

*Anti-Bullying Week/ International Day of Kindness (November)*

*We are also very conscious of having open and honest dialogue with pupils which we have found helps to raise their awareness and can prevent bullying.*

## Recording and monitoring strategies

In *Morebattle and Yetholm Primaries* incidents of bullying are recorded and monitored, in accordance with the guidance in SBC:INCLUDES Respectful Relationships and Anti-Bullying Policy. (Incidents will be recorded in the SEEMIS Bullying and Equality Module in schools or manually in learning establishments who do not have access to SEEMIS).

## Reporting and feeding back about bullying incidents

In *Morebattle and Yetholm Primaries* children/young people, staff and parents will be made aware of the confidential and safe ways to report bullying behaviour.

### Ways for Pupils to report bullying behaviour:

*Through their teacher*

*Through support staff*

*Through any other member of staff*

*Via their parents*

*In school, where a pupil indicates that they wish to speak to a member of staff about bullying then time will be made as quickly as possible and will be responded to promptly (as outlines in Scottish Borders Respectful Relationships and Anti-Bullying Policy).*

*Some older pupils also felt that they could email their teacher if they were feeling reluctant to speak potentially in front of others. We are also introducing QR codes to allow pupils to report this directly to Mr Wilson/ Mrs Douglas.*

### Ways for parents to report bullying behaviour:

*By phone call or email via the office*

*Through conversation with staff at drop off or pick up.*

*A parent **should** request to speak to their child's class teacher in the first instance if they have concerns around bullying behaviours. Class teachers will make the Senior Leadership Team aware.*

*The flow chart taken from SBC's Respectful Relationships and Anti-Bullying Policy has also been shared so parents/carers know the steps taken when investigating a bullying incident.*

### Ways for Staff to report bullying behaviour:

*Staff should verbally notify a member of the Senior Leadership Team if they are within the building. This should then be followed up in writing via email with specific details.*

*If the Senior Leadership Team are unavailable for whatever reason staff should notify one or both of them via email or phone call. Include key, relevant details.*

In *Morebattle and Yetholm Primaries*, Mr Wilson (Head Teacher) and Mrs Douglas (Principal Teacher) will be responsible for ensuring all parties are actively informed of progress made.

## Children / young people's views on respectful relationships

We have shared the Respectful Relationships and Anti-Bullying poster with our children/young people and consulted with them in the creation of this statement. Some of their comments are shown below:

*Pupils thought that the new SBC poster was clear and eye-catching, the colours help it to stand out. Having an idea of what should happen is interesting- we didn't know all of that.*

*Our pupils felt it should be displayed centrally (we are a small school so maybe near the entrance or in the Hall) and for older classes it could go on the classroom door so children knew where it was.*

*The QR code isn't something we would always use but we understand why because it would be safer than just searching online for information that might not be reliable.*

## Parent's views on respectful relationships

We have shared the Respectful Relationships and Anti-Bullying parent/carer leaflet with our parents/carers and consulted with them in the creation of this statement. Some of their comments are shown below:

*"As a parent this is welcome information for parents on Respectful Relationships and Anti-Bullying Policies – the leaflet is helpful for understanding what should happen when a bullying incident occurs and how a parent can support their child. The embedded links are useful for further guidance if needed."*

Policy Statement date created August 2023

Policy statement reviewed date August 2026 (Every three years)

Head of *Morebattle and Yetholm Primaries* Mr Jamie Wilson

Signature



Date: 16.8.23