



## DAUNTSEY'S SCHOOL

### CYBER BULLYING POLICY

**'STICKS AND STONE MAY BREAK MY BONES BUT WORDS  
THEY CANNOT HURT ME'**

Unfortunately, in this day and age the statement is rather out of date. The misuse of **e-mails, texts, social networking sites, social media, games consoles and mobile phone calls** can create a nuisance or great misery for a lot of people. It is hoped that this policy will help to alleviate the problem at Dauntsey's. It has been written in consultation with the pupils in the Third Year during their PSHE lessons. It is open to review and alteration.

#### **What is cyber bullying?**

Cyber bullying is the use of Information Communications Technology (ICT), particularly mobile phones and the internet, deliberately to upset someone else.

Some cyber bullying activities could be criminal offences under a range of different laws, including the Protection from Harassment Act 1997, and the Malicious Communications Act 1988.

#### **How are we trying to prevent it?**

Updating and reviewing our anti-bullying Policy to include cyber bullying. Please refer also to the School's ICT user policy.

Raise the awareness of staff, parents and students to the problem through PSHE lessons, and seminars run by visiting speakers for staff and parents.

Raise awareness of their responsibilities in their use of ICT.

Promote the positive use of technology.

Provide and publicise different ways of reporting an incident and offer advice about how pupils can keep themselves safe. By promoting 'BOB' on line and posters around the School.

Regularly review the impact of the policy by an annual on line, anonymous anti-bullying questionnaire.

A mobile technology policy for pupils, written by Mrs A. Jackson and Miss E. Conidaris, will be shared through PSHE lessons.

### **How can cyber bullying be reported?**

Talk to someone you trust, a parent or any member of staff, the Listening Service, Counsellors, or use 'BOB' (Boot Out Bullying) (anti-bullying e-mail reporting system), which is on the Dauntsey's network in the PSHE area BOB can also be used to report instances of abuse, and suspicious or dangerous behaviour by other pupils, staff, volunteers or those outside school. The Deputy Head (Pastoral), Mrs A. Jackson, is the Designated Safeguarding Lead and any concerns can be reported to her or to Miss E. Conidaris, Head of the Lower School and Deputy Designated Senior Safeguarding Lead. Concerns can also be raised directly with the Head Master.

### **What sanctions will be used?**

The 'No blame' approach will be used, however, the person may lose certain privileges depending on the severity and the length of the bullying.

These may include blocked access to the Internet at school, confiscation or restriction of use of a mobile phone, detention, or even suspension or exclusion, which will be at the discretion of the Head Master.

The Use and Abuse of Technology Policy also highlights necessary sanctions.

Access to technology should be seen as a privilege not a right and the abuse of these privileges brings consequences.

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