Our mission - 'To create and sustain an inclusive and outstanding learning community for all, rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ, in which all will aspire to excellence in learning, teaching and care for one another, so all will achieve and grow as unique individuals made in the image of God'.

Our Core Values;

Faith, Aspiration & Unity

We are committed to providing a positive working environment, which is free from prejudice and unlawful discrimination and any form of harassment, bullying or victimisation. We have developed a number of key policies to ensure that the principles of Catholic and Church of England Social Teaching in relation to human dignity and dignity in work become embedded into every aspect of school life and these policies are reviewed regularly in this regard.

Child on Child Abuse Policy

Child on Child Abuse policy. - Document Status			
Date of review completion	September 2026	**Named Responsibility**	BHSS Committee (AM)
Date of Policy Adoption by Governing Body	December 2022	**Next Review Date**	September 2027
Policy Basis	Model policy taken from The Key and adjusted for HTA – Additional Child Friendly Policy (annexe 1) created by HTA		

The aim of the Holy Trinity Academy school child on child abuse policy is to prevent abuse of any sort and to ensure that everyone can operate in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being abused. All members of the community, including teaching and non-teaching staff, students and parents should have an understanding of what child on child abuse is and be familiar with the school policy on child on child abuse; therefore the aim of the policy is to help members of the school community to deal with child on child abuse when it occurs and, even more importantly to prevent it. Child on child abuse is an anti-social behaviour, which affects everyone; it is unacceptable and it will not be tolerated. Everyone in the community has a responsibility to report any incident of abuse.

Definition of child on child abuse

Child on child abuse may be defined as any deliberately hurtful behaviour, usually repeated over a period of time which intentionally hurts another student or group physically or emotionally, where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves, and is often motivated by prejudice. Examples of unacceptable behaviour include:

- Physical assault
- Verbal abuse, by name calling, teasing or making offensive remarks
- Indirect emotional tormenting by excluding from social groups or spreading malicious rumours
- Sexual harassment/abuse
- Hate incidents both online and offline

Child on child abuse may be overt and intimidatory but is often hidden and subtle. It includes actions or comments that are racist, religious or cultural, homophobic, sexist, sexual or that which has a focus on disabilities or other physical attributes (such as hair, colour or body shape) or any reference to Special Educational Needs and/or disability.

What should you do if Child on Child Abuse is taking place?

If you are receiving Child on Child abuse or know of someone else being abused – **TELL SOMEONE.** School cannot do anything to help if we have no knowledge of what is going on. Not all signs are visible to school.

Sharing information/where to get help

- **Speak to a pastoral support officer immediately**
- **Choose any member of staff to disclose your feelings**
- **Tell your parent/carer**
- **Use the school's online Heart System to report anonymously**

For Parents

Things to look out for in victims of child on child abuse

- Reluctance to make the journey to and from school
- Money or possessions going missing
- Clothes torn/belongings broken
- Wanting extra pocket money for no particular reason
- Unexplained cuts and bruises
- Taking different routes to school
- Unexplained behaviour changes, e.g. moody, bad tempered, tearful
- Unhappiness
- Nightmares
- Not wanting to leave the house

- Reluctance to talk openly about school friends and social times

If you are concerned your child is the victim of child on child abuse, you should contact the school as soon as possible to report the issues through the appropriate channels. Sometimes children have not reported the issues to anyone in school.

What should you do if you think your child is a victim of child on child abuse:

- Calmly talk with your child about his/her experience
- Make a note of what your child says – particularly who was said to be involved; how often the abuse has occurred, where it happened and what has happened
- Reassure your child that he/she has done the right thing in telling you about the abuse and that there is nothing wrong with him/her
- Encourage your child to report any incidents of child abuse to a teacher immediately
- Make an appointment to speak your child's Pastoral support officer even if your child is reluctant that you do so

We can only do something if we know there is a problem

- Explain to staff the problems your child is experiencing
- Do not encourage your child to hit back. It will only make matters worse. Such behaviour could be contrary to your child's nature

<u>Child on Child abuse procedures</u>

All students are encouraged to feel it is right to tell someone if they are being abused or if someone they know is. Incidents of child on child abuse will be referred to Pastoral staff and dealt with timely and appropriately.
Whilst it is the responsibility of all staff within the school to reinforce the child on child abuse strategy and support the victims, it is recognised that not all staff have the capacity (due to commitments of their job) to carry out a swift and thorough investigation.
Therefore, incidents of child on child abuse should be referred to the appropriate pastoral support as quickly as possible. Following an investigation, any victim of child on child on abuse will be supported and monitored for an agreed length of time. This will be discussed between the pastoral support, student and parent/carer.

Staff suspecting an incident of child on child abuse should:

- Reassure the young person that their concerns are being taken seriously and will be investigated
- Contact the relevant pastoral support officer as soon as possible with the incident details
- Record the incident as heard or witnessed on CPOMS as a concern
- Pastoral staff will investigate all reported incidents of child on child abuse using the following procedures

Appropriate students will be interviewed by a member of the pastoral team and statements taken.
If the investigation confirms a child on child abuse incident has taken place the Pastoral support will update CPOMS records.
Appropriate sanctions and support will be used for the perpetrator/s
Parents of the victim and perpetrator will be notified as soon as possible and support will be given by the pastoral team. The incident will be reviewed with the victim and if needed with the parent/carer (timing appropriate to individual situations).

Sanctions

Child on Child abuse in any form will not be tolerated at Holy Trinity Academy and peer abuse related incidents will be dealt with seriously. Each incident will be investigated thoroughly and parents will be kept fully informed of the outcome of such investigations. Sanctions applied will depend upon the individual incident but may include:

- Alterations to seating plans/class groups
- Afterschool detentions
- Restricting access to the school site or classrooms
- Time in reflection
- Fixed term exclusion from school
- Permanent exclusion from school

Zero-tolerance approach to sexual harassment and sexual violence

The school will ensure that all incidents of sexual harassment and/or violence are met with a suitable response, and never ignored.

Pupils are encouraged to report anything that makes them uncomfortable, no matter how 'small' they feel it might be.

The school's response will be:

Proportionate

Considered

Supportive

Decided on a case-by-case basis

Sanctions for sexual harassment and violence may include:

- Restorative justice
- Internal exclusion
- External exclusion
- Managed move to another education setting
- Permanent exclusion

The school has procedures in place to respond to any allegations or concerns regarding a child's safety or wellbeing. These include clear processes for:

Responding to a report

Carrying out risk assessments, where appropriate, to help determine whether to:

- Manage the incident internally
- Refer to early help
- Refer to children's social care
- Report to the police

Please refer to our child protection and safeguarding policy for more information

Useful Websites
www.childline.org.uk
www.bullying.co.uk
www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk
www.need2know.co.uk/beatbullying
www.diana-award.org.uk

Annexe 1 – Below on Next Page

Child on child abuse

Student friendly policy

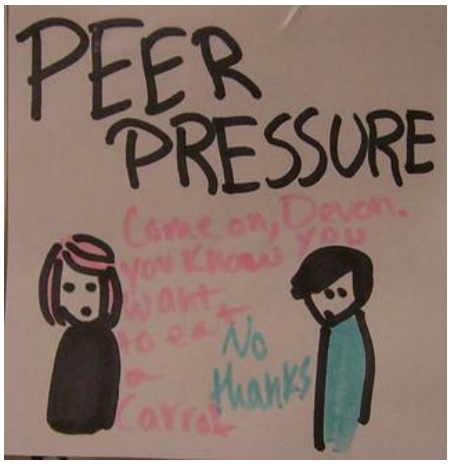
Contents page

- What is child on child abuse?
- Bullying
- Relationships
- Sexting
- Sexual harassment
- How do I know if I’m being abused?
- Reporting child on child abuse
- Preventing abuse child on child abuse
- Other support

Child on Child abuse

What is child on child abuse?

What is abuse? Abuse is something which physically or emotionally hurts another person by using behaviour that is meant to scare, hurt or upset them





Abuse is something, which physically or emotionally hurts another person by using behaviour that is meant to scare, intimidate, hurt, or upset them.

The different types of child-on-child abuse:

- Physical and sexual abuse.
- Sexual harassment and violence.
- Emotional harm.
- On and offline bullying.
- Teenage relationship abuse.

Bullying

What is bullying?

Bullying is behaviour that hurts someone else. It includes name calling, hitting, pushing, spreading rumours, threatening or undermining someone.

It can happen anywhere – at school, at home or online. It's usually **repeated over a long period of time** and can hurt a child both physically and emotionally.

Emotional bullying- is hurting someone's feelings, leaving them out. Wanting to make someone feel afraid or angry.

Physical bullying- can be punching, kicking, spitting or any means of physically hurting someone

Verbal bullying- is teasing someone, calling someone names this includes racist and/or homophobic name calling.

Racist bullying- bullying someone because of their colour, race or what they believe in

Homophobic- bullying someone because of their gender or sexuality

Cyber bullying- Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place online. Unlike bullying offline, online bullying can follow the child wherever they go, via social networks, gaming and mobile phone.

Relationships

Any relationships you have should be positive and make you feel happy. A negative relationship can be seen as 'toxic' and make you feel scared, confused, worried and even unsafe. It's important we know the difference between a good and bad relationship.



Good relationship:

- You are comfortable around that person
- You can be honest with that person
- You are able to say how you feel, what you are thinking, and you listen to each other
- You support each other and treat each other with respect
- You feel safe to spend time with them

Bad relationship:

- The person may hurt you or destroy your personal belongings
- They may tell you what to do, what to wear and who you can see
- You may feel scared, they might tell you they will hurt you if you don't do something or hurt you if you do, do something.
- They make you feel bad about yourself
- They might pressure you into doing things you don't want to do, like sex, drugs or alcohol
- The person may not take no for an answer

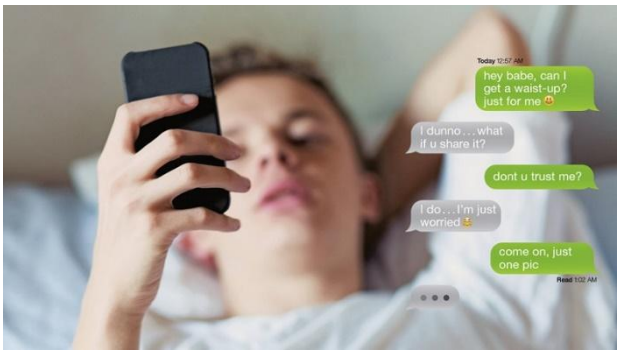
Sexting

Sexting is where a friend/stranger asks you to send a picture of yourself for example: Them asking you to send a picture of your waist-up/waist-down, a picture without your clothes on, sending inappropriate messages or pressuring you to do it or threatening the person.
This can happen on a phone, computer, laptop or any digital device. It is ILLEGAL to have sexually explicit photos, messages, videos of a person who is under 18 too. Even if the person who is doing the exploit is 18+ if the person/child is under 18 it would be illegal.

Sexual Harassment

<u>What is sexual harassment?</u>
Sometimes, people can be inappropriate towards other people, often the victims don't consent to the attention they are getting.
This can include things such as:

- Forcing people to do things they don't want to do,
- sending inappropriate images, messages, or videos
- taking pictures under people's clothing without them knowing, this is called **upskirting**
- posting them online without consent.
- Making jokes or teasing in a way which makes people feel uncomfortable.
- People can also be physical towards other people, which can make them feel scared, embarrassed, or upset
- Making people do things which they aren't ready for.



How do I know if myself or others are being abused?

You may not know you are being abused and you may not fully understand what is happening. It is important you recognise when behaviour is inappropriate for yourself or others.

Some of the signs that yourself or others around you are suffering from peer on peer abuse are:

Not going to school

Having injuries like bruises

Low mood and self-esteem

Reporting child on child abuse



Tell someone- we will listen!

Where to get help, who can I share with?

- Choose any member of staff to disclose your feelings
- Speak to your or any pastoral support officer immediately
- Tell your parent/carer
- Use the school's online Heart System to report anonymously

Remember, if you feel you are a victim of child-on-child abuse, it is not your fault, and you are never alone.

Preventing Child on child abuse in school

- Staff are trained so they know what to do when you tell them how you feel, and that child and child abuse has happened

- Students understand how to treat each other and know what acceptable and unacceptable behaviour is

- We have RSHE lessons in school to help us understand better what child on child abuse is and how we can challenge it

- Holy Trinity Academy will not accept any child-on-child abuse related incidents and will be dealt with seriously



Where else can I get support?

- **Useful Websites**
- www.childline.org.uk
- www.bullying.co.uk
- www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk
- www.need2know.co.uk/beatbullying
- www.diana-award.org.uk


BullyingUK
www.bullying.co.uk


NSPCC