



Hythe & Dibden Cricket Club

Anti Bullying Policy

MISSION STATEMENT

Hythe & Dibden Cricket Club is committed to providing a caring, friendly & safe environment for all our children so they can train and play in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our club. If bullying does occur, all children should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively.

We are a TELLING CLUB – this means that if anyone knows bullying is taking place then they are expected to tell the coaches or officials.

WHAT IS BULLYING?

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

Bullying can be:

- **Emotional** : being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding kit or threatening gestures)
- **Physical** : pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- **Racist** : racist taunts, graffiti, gestures
- **Sexual** : unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive behavior
- **Homophobic** : because of, or focusing on the issue of sexuality
- **Verbal** : name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumors and teasing
- **Cyber**: all areas of internet such as email or internet chat room misuse. Mobile threats by text messaging and calls. Misuse of technology such as camera and video facilities.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO RESPOND TO BULLYING

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect. Children who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving. Our cricket club has a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.



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OBJECTIVES OF THIS POLICY

- All officials, coaching and non-coaching staff, children and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- All officials, coaching and non-coaching staff should know what the clubs policy is on bullying and follow it when bullying is reported.
- All children and parents should know what the clubs policy is on bullying and what they should do if bullying arises.
- As a club we take bullying seriously. Children and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.
- Bullying will not be tolerated.

SIGNS & SYMPTONS

A child may indicate by signs or behavior that he or she is being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and they should investigate if a child:

- Says they are being bullied
- Changes their usual routine
- Is unwilling to go to the club
- Becomes withdrawn, anxious or lacking if confidence
- Comes home with torn or belongings damaged
- Has possessions which are damaged or 'go missing'
- Asks for money or starts stealing money 'to pay bully'
- Has unexplained cuts or bruises
- Is frightened to say what's wrong
- Gives improbable excuses for any of the above



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In more extreme cases the child:

- Starts stammering
- Cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- Becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- Is bullying other children or siblings
- Stops eating Attempts or threatens suicide or runs away

These signs and behaviors could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated.

PROCEDURES

If we have too – we will use KIDSCAPE METHODS (The anti bullying policy for schools) for helping children to prevent bullying.

As and when appropriate this may involve:

- Writing a set of club rules
- Signing a behavior contract
- Having discussions and why it matter.