

St Patrick's Primary School  
Saul

*Anti-Bullying Policy*  
*September 2021*  
*(to be reviewed June 2024)*

**Saul**

# Anti-Bullying Policy

Vision Statement:

*'We work together, We play together, We pray together.'*

## Mission Statement

In St Patrick's we aim to provide an education rooted in the Catholic Faith that helps everyone reach their full potential. We endeavour to provide our pupils with the opportunity to obtain the skills necessary for their futures. We will provide them with a safe, caring and happy school in which they are all valued as individuals and where their academic, emotional, physical and spiritual needs are nurtured in a family atmosphere.

## Aims:

- A broad and balanced curriculum which will provide learning opportunities for each young person to develop as:
  1. an individual
  2. a contributor to society; and
  3. a contributor to the economy and the environment.
- An awareness of his/her own talents, skills and abilities
- A lively and enquiring mind, the ability to question and make informed decisions
- A love of learning, a knowledge of how to learn and the motivation to produce his/her best
- Effective communication between all members of the school community
- An awareness of the immediate environment and an attitude which leads to self-discipline, independence, courtesy, good manners and respect for everyone
- 
- A knowledge and understanding of the wider world in which we live, of the interdependence of individuals, groups and nations and a tolerance of other religions and ways of life.

The staff, pupils, parents and governors are fully committed to the aims of St Patrick's and have a strong sense of loyalty to the school. Parents and staff work well together in partnership in the children's education. Parents are welcome in school and are given clear information about their children's progress, the school's curriculum and the day-to-day organisation of the school. Parents' views are taken into account in the School Development Plan.

### **Legislative Context**

- The Addressing Bullying in Schools Act (Northern Ireland) 2016
- The Education and Libraries Order (Northern Ireland) 2003
- The Education (School Development Plans) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010
- The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995
- The Human Rights Act 1998
- The Health and Safety at Work Order (Northern Ireland) 1978
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Act (Northern Ireland) 2016
- 

### **Policy & Guidance Context**

- The Addressing Bullying in Schools Act (Northern Ireland) 2016
- Statutory Guidance for Schools and Boards of Governors (DE, 2021)
- Pastoral Care in School: Promoting Positive Behaviour (DE, 2001)
- Safeguarding and Child Protection in Schools: A Guide for Schools (DE, 2017)
- Co-operating to Safeguard Children and Young People in Northern Ireland (Dept. of Health, Social Services and Public Safety, 2016)
- Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland Policies and Procedures (SBNI, 2017)
- Measures to Prevent Bullying in DE Circular 2003/13

### **The International Context**

- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)  
The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) sets out every child's right to:
  1. Be protected from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, maltreatment or exploitation.
  2. Be protected from discrimination.
  3. Express their views, in a supported and accessible way, on issues that affect them, and to have their opinions taken seriously.
  4. Education.

Key points to note are:

The Addressing Bullying in Schools Act (Northern Ireland) 2016:

- Provides a legal definition of bullying.
- Places a duty on the Board of Governors to put in place measures to prevent bullying behaviour, in consultation with pupils and parents.
- Requires schools to record all incidents of bullying behaviour and alleged bullying behaviours including the motivation, method, how the incident was addressed and the outcome.
- Sets out under which circumstances this policy should be applied, namely:
  1. on the premises of the school, during the school day
  2. While travelling to and from school during the school term
  3. While the pupil is in the lawful control or charge of a member of staff of the school, but away from school (e.g. school trip)
  4. While receiving education provision arranged on behalf of the school and provided elsewhere than on the premises of the school
- Requires that the policy be updated at least every four years.

- The Education and Libraries Order (NI) 2003, requires the Board of Governors to: 'Safeguard and promote the welfare of registered pupils' the act is in operation from September 2021

At St Patrick's Primary School, we believe all forms of bullying behaviour are unacceptable. We believe that all pupils have the right to learn in a safe and supported environment.