

YSGOL CAERGEILIOG FOUNDATION SCHOOL



Violence in School - Policy Statement

INTRODUCTION:

Caergeiliog Foundation School will make every effort to ensure that the School is a safe environment for all members of the school community.

The aim is to create a safe and secure learning environment where crime and anti-social behaviour are not tolerated.

Our School will not tolerate any form of violence, threatening behaviour or abuse by any person against any member of the school community. Such behaviour is unlawful and will be treated as an offence.

The responsibility of ensuring the health and safety of pupils and staff at our School lies with the Governing Body. On a day-to-day basis this responsibility is devolved to the Head Teacher.

Procedure

1. Introduction

The School will ensure, as far as possible, that members of the School community are not subjected to any form of:

- a. violence
- b. any type of abuse or threatening behaviour
- c. anti-social behaviour.

This policy applies to everyone, including pupils, parents, visitors, or trespassers on school premises.

2. Risk Assessment

The School will carry out a risk assessment to determine:

- a. the nature of the risk
- b. the people who are at risk.

The School will carry out a whole-staff consultation exercise. To determine the precise nature of the risk or risks involved, staff will be asked the following questions.

- a. What is the likelihood of pupils and staff in this school being subjected to violence or abuse?
- b. Do staff feel safe?
- c. Who are the staff that are likely to be most at risk?
- d. What action should be taken if violence occurs?
- e. How will this action be implemented?
- f. How will the results be monitored?
- g. What feedback will be provided?
- h. What are the training needs?

3. Preventing Violence

To prevent violent incidents, staff will:

- help pupils who are known to have violent tendencies to avoid situations that will provoke violent or aggressive behavior.
- try to recognise the early stages of a behavioural sequence that is likely to develop into violence or aggression.

4. If a Violent Incident Occurs

If a violent incident or emergency occurs, staff will:

- if necessary summon help and, if appropriate or possible, ask a colleague to mediate on their behalf
- try to stay calm
- keep their voice steady and not shout louder than the other person
- firmly state that the conversation would be better continued at another time and that they are happy to arrange one that is mutually convenient
- not walk away in anger, but if necessary move to a place of safety, explaining what they are doing
- look for indications that the person is under the influence of drink or drugs and be aware that this might result in unpredictable behaviour.
- if dealing with a violent pupil, ensure that restrictive physical intervention is kept to the minimum
- **where necessary, call the police.**

5. Recording of Incidents

All incidents will be recorded by the School in accordance with the accident and

emergency procedures.

6. Reporting of Incidents

The School will investigate any incidents of violence. In accordance with the Reporting Regulations, the School will inform the Health and Safety Executive about any incidents involving:

- a. fatalities
- b. major injuries
- c. injuries resulting in more than seven days' incapacity for work.

7. After an Incident

The School will consider what follow-up is necessary, including:

- a. taking appropriate disciplinary action
- b. providing support for victims of violent incidents, eg by offering counselling or peer support measures
- c. liaising with the police
- d. taking legal action

8. Exclusion of Pupils

In accordance with the national standard list of reasons, the School will consider excluding any pupil who is responsible for:

- a. a physical assault against a pupil or adult
- b. verbal abuse or threatening behaviour against a pupil or adult
- c. bullying
- d. racist abuse
- e. sexual misconduct
- f. drug or alcohol-related misconduct
- g. wanton damage
- h. theft
- i. persistent disruptive behaviour.

9. Legal Action

The School will seek legal remedies for the following offences.

- a. Nuisance or disturbance.
- b. Abusive behaviour.
- c. Anti-social behaviour.
- d. Harassment.
- e. Damage to property.
- f. Assault.
- g. Public order offences.
- h. Carrying offensive weapons on school premises.

10. Protocol

The School will consider establishing a School Police protocol to help promote dialogue and further develop effective partnerships between the School and the police that are based on co-operation and shared understanding.

11. Training

Staff will receive training in:

- a. the procedures that the school has in place to ensure their safety
- b. dealing with potentially difficult situations
- c. the regulations relating to physical restraint of pupils
- d. personal safety training, including techniques in spotting conflict before it leads to violence.