



**Head Teacher:**  
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BA (Hons) QTS

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Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2014

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Anti-Bullying Week

I am sure you will be aware that this week is **Anti-Bullying Week** in school. In his introduction on the school website Mr James appropriately describes Barcombe CEP School as *"a school that is happy and cares for all who work in it, adults and pupils alike, typified by mutual trust and respect in our dealings with one another"*.

In my frequent visits to school I have been able to see for myself just how caring the community of staff and pupils is, showing respect and consideration to each other in so many touching ways. These behaviours demonstrate to our children how to grow up as considerate individuals that know how to deal with each other appropriately and with due consideration.

Inevitably, very occasionally – and I do mean very occasionally! – incidents occur resulting in inappropriate behaviour. It is for this reason that the school has a clear **Anti-Bullying Policy** that makes clear that the school's aim is *"to create and sustain an environment in which everyone feels safe and secure"*. To achieve that the school *"will endeavour to ensure that all of our children understand what type of behaviour is deemed acceptable and appropriate. We will be vigilant and we will always listen to our children and explain the reasons for our actions in response to their concerns"*. This policy outlines clearly how the school would respond sensitively but decisively to any and every instance of inappropriate behaviour with the dual aim of caring for the child that has been treated inappropriately and giving due corrective guidance to the child that has behaved inappropriately.

Alongside the above policy, the **Behaviour Policy** sets out behaviour patterns that are appropriate and that will contribute to the school being a happy community in which all can learn and develop: *"Everyone in our school will –*

- *Be kind and helpful; not hurt people's feelings*
- *Be gentle; not hurt anyone*
- *Listen; not interrupt*
- *Work hard; not waste their own or other people's time*
- *Be honest; not cover up the truth"*

I fully understand the concerns and anxieties that parents may have if they fear that their child might be subjected to inappropriate behaviour; it is equally concerning for the parent of a child that is behaving inappropriately as this could reflect certain needs or insecurities that are troubling the child. In either case if you have either of these concerns I would encourage you to discuss your concerns with Mr James. The school has robust procedures for supporting children (and parents) in either situation of need and your concerns will be listened to and taken seriously and appropriate action will be taken.

In conclusion let me reassure you that the school has an excellent record of good behaviour and the very rare lapses are dealt with promptly and appropriately.

Yours sincerely,

Neil Milmine  
Chair of Governors

*Learning Together, Believing Together*

East Sussex County Council

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