



Durham Tees Valley School
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BULLYING

Guidance for DTVS

Bullying is a complex issue that can be difficult to address, especially in the classroom setting. Bullying can manifest in various forms, such as teasing, gossiping, and physical violence, which can have a devastating impact on young people if left unaddressed. It not only affects a student's learning but can also have long-lasting effects well into adulthood. Those who have experienced bullying during their early years may struggle to form healthy relationships and may also experience serious mental health issues.

Therefore, DTVSS need to develop an anti-bullying policy and adopt a zero-tolerance approach towards bullying. The policy should be implemented firmly and consistently to establish a solid foundation for preventing bullying. To achieve this, DTVSs should:

- Discuss bullying in an Islamic context, emphasising the impact of one's actions on others. All students should be taught the physical, emotional, and spiritual harms of bullying.
- Speak to students to identify any hidden culture of bullying that the staff may not be aware of. This information will help inform the anti-bullying policies and procedures.
- Set out appropriate sanctions for bullies, including a permanent exclusion for serious or persistent offences. Parents should also be informed and encouraged to support the DTVS's anti-bullying message.
- Ensure that students feel comfortable and encouraged to report bullying in the DTVS, whether as a witness or a victim. Young people are often afraid of retaliation from bullies if they report the bullying to an adult, so DTVSs should create a safe environment for pupils to discuss these issues.

Jazak Allah Khair,

Durham Tees Valley School.