

Challenging bullying, hate crime, hate incidents and harassment

Child Friendly Guidance for Schools

The information provided here is based on the [guidance document for Cardiff schools](#) on how to challenge and report bullying, hate crime, hate incidents, and harassment. This guidance is in place to ensure that every child's rights are respected and protected.

Challenging Bullying and Hate Crime

Every child has the right to be safe and treated with respect, according to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Bullying and hate crimes violate these rights and should not be tolerated. The guidance encourages anyone who sees or experiences any form of bullying or hate crime to challenge it and report it to a trusted adult

Signs to Look Out For

Bullying and hate crimes can take many forms, including physical, verbal, and online abuse. If you or someone else is being treated unfairly or hurtfully because of race, gender, sexual orientation, special educational needs, disabilities, or long-term health conditions, it could be a sign of bullying or a hate crime. This goes against the right to non-discrimination (Article 2 of the UNCRC).

How Schools Can Support

- Schools should provide a safe and supportive environment for all students, respecting the right to education in a safe environment (Article 28 and 29 of the UNCRC). They should have policies in place to deal with bullying and hate crimes, and these policies should be communicated to students, staff, and parents.
- Schools should also provide support to students who have been bullied or affected by hate crimes. This could include counselling, advice, and reassurance, ensuring your right to recovery and reintegration (Article 39 of the UNCRC).
- Schools can also help by teaching about respect and equality in the curriculum, and by promoting positive behaviours, fostering the spirit of peace, dignity, tolerance, freedom, equality, and solidarity as outlined in Article 29 of the UNCRC.

Reporting Incidents

- The guidance emphasizes the importance of reporting any incidents of bullying or hate crimes. You can tell a trusted adult, such as a teacher or parent, about what happened. Schools should have clear procedures for reporting and dealing with incidents, respecting your right to be heard (Article 12 of the UNCRC).
- Remember, not telling means that bullying is likely to continue. Your concerns will be taken seriously and investigated, and your confidentiality will be respected, in line with your right to privacy (Article 16 of the UNCRC).

Everyone has the right to feel safe and respected. If you're ever unsure or worried about something, don't hesitate to speak up and ask for help.

Your rights matter, and there are guidance and support available to help protect those rights.

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Challenging Bullying and Hate Crime

Bullying, hate crime, and harassment is never okay, and everyone has the right to feel safe and respected at school. Remember, you have the power to make a difference and create a supportive environment for everyone.

How Schools Can Support

Your school has a duty to support you to:

- **Call it out!** Teachers and adults in the school can help you learn more about different types of bullying, hate crimes, and harassment so that you know when it's right to challenge it!
- **Report it!** Your school has an anti-bullying policy. They could also have a separate hate crime, hate incident and harassment policy, which means when you tell an adult about something that has happened, they have a duty to listen and help. Ask your teacher about the school policies and how it can help you. You may even be able to help make it more child friendly.

Signs to Look Out For

When a child experiences bullying, hate crime and harassment, sometimes they might not realise.

Some things to look out for:

- *Repeated negative comments about a person e.g. about the way they look or sound.*
- *Causing a person distress with threatening or upsetting behaviour.*
- *When someone hurts or harms another person because they don't like something about them e.g. race, religion, gender or other personal characteristics. Some of these can be illegal.*

Did you know:

The majority of Cardiff's Schools are on a journey to becoming rights respecting. The rights group or school council can help you have your voice heard on lots of different things including bullying and hate incidents!

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Your rights matter, and there are guidance and support available to help protect those rights.