

DL5: Developing policies, practices and procedures

Does the Governors' written statement of general principles for the behaviour policy make reference to bullying and homophobic bullying?



Look at the key policies that shape responses to bullying. Can they be more inclusive?

Is homophobic bullying referenced in the anti-bullying policies and procedures?



Staff and pupils will not necessarily presume that a generic policy includes homophobic bullying.

Have you conducted an audit of all other policies and procedures? For example, areas such as curriculum and safeguarding are relevant.



Preventing homophobic bullying can be done in a variety of contexts, not just a specific response to an incident. Explore all opportunities.

Have you consulted governors, parents, other staff, and pupils about changes to policies? Consultation can help achieve buy-in and counteract future criticism.



Consultation will make policies more effective and help achieve their implementation. It is also a requirement of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

Have you looked at existing anti-bullying strategies to see if they can be developed to include homophobic bullying?



Homophobic bullying does not necessarily need a completely new approach. Using existing mechanisms and methods can be equally effective.

Have you told other agencies about the progress you are making? Have you shared your experiences with the local authority and other schools?



Sharing knowledge helps others to prevent homophobic bullying and enables your school to feel proud of its achievements.