Anti-Bullying

All members of the SCEGGS community are valued as individuals and have the right to feel safe and happy within the school environment. Bullying is not acceptable and it is expected that all members of SCEGGS staff, students and parents will work together to prevent bullying.

Bullying
Bullying is when someone, or a group, deliberately and/or repeatedly hurts, frightens or threatens someone else.
Not everything that hurts is bullying. It is not bullying when friends have the odd fight or quarrel.
Some examples of bullying could be:

Verbal: name calling, "put-downs", offensive language, spreading malicious rumours, tone of voice.

Phones: "nuisance" telephone calls or text messages, photographing without permission, videoing or recording without permission.

Cyber: threatening or offensive e-mails, bullying conversations in instant messaging services, bullying behaviour on social network sites (such as Facebook, Instagram or SnapChat), posting personal information or images on websites without permission.
If someone else (known to you, not known to you or anonymously) puts material on a website, Facebook page, blog, social networking or other site of yours, and/or you have the power to delete that material, then you will be held responsible for the contents of the comment, picture or other material and its presence on the site.

Visual: offensive notes, graffiti.

Victimisation: stand-over tactics, damage or theft of others' possessions, threats to "get" people, repeated exclusions

Physical: fighting, pushing, shoving, gestures, invasion of personal space.

Transmission: passing on or forwarding of images, texts, emails or other documents prepared by others

Bullying may be subtle or blatant.
Bullying may involve any combination of students, staff and parents.

If you witness bullying and do nothing about it, then you are failing to meet your obligations as a member of our community who values each individual.

What should students do
• be aware that no one has to put up with bullying.
• know that every person has the right to tell an individual who is bullying that you find the behaviour unacceptable.
• report the bullying to a trusted adult/teacher.
• be aware that sometimes actions are labelled bullying when they aren’t. If you are not sure talk to someone about this who might help you to interpret the situation.
keep a record of any bullying websites, online voting sites, blogs by saving or printing them and noting the date, time and any details about the sender.
keep any bullying text messages, images or voice mail messages.
remember to be assertive not aggressive.
understand all individuals involved in a bullying incident need support.
be confident that the matter will be dealt with appropriately and confidentially.
if the bullying continues, do not be afraid to report it again as a different course of action may be required.
If your friend is being bullied, or you see an incident of bullying, you should encourage that person to tell a trusted teacher or tell a teacher yourself. You could go with that person to support them if that would be helpful for her.

What parents should do
If you are aware your daughter is being bullied you should:
• listen and try to provide an open, non-judgemental environment for your daughter to talk about the situation.
• tell her you understand and give her support. Remind her she has the right to feel safe.
• suggest your daughter speak to a member of staff.
• contact the Class Teacher, Form Teacher or Year Co-ordinator immediately if the problem seems particularly serious, or ongoing.
• try to avoid an angry or emotional response.
• assist your daughter to print out and hand in to the school any material from websites and emails etc.
• be aware that actions such as discussing the matter with other parents and/or students directly can inflame the situation – it is better to telephone the school instead.
• trust the school to carry through actions that will solve the problem.

Any member of the Welfare Team (Class Teacher, Form Teacher, Year Co-ordinator, School Counsellors, Director of Pastoral Care, School Chaplain, Deputy Head, Head of Primary School) is always available to discuss the problem with you and provide support for you.

When bullying is found to have occurred, SCEGGS will take appropriate action to:
• ensure the immediate safety and well-being of those involved.
• provide on-going support and counselling for the individual being bullied.
• inform the individual who has been responsible for the bullying that this behaviour is unacceptable.
• counsel the individual to understand the implications of bullying.
• discipline the offender.
• establish whether further support and/or counselling are required to rectify behaviour.
• advise the individual of the consequences of further bullying.
• inform the parents.
• follow up with the individuals to provide any necessary support.

Bullying is not acceptable.

All students, parents and staff have a responsibility to report every instance of bullying to help us support all students, parents and staff.

SCEGGS will always approach each case individually and with flexibility.