

A Safe Community - Bullying.

Ruddington Baptist Church is committed to the prevention of bullying of children and young people. The church will seek to ensure that the behaviour of any who may pose a risk to children and young people in the community of the church is managed appropriately

The government defines bullying as

“Behaviour by an individual or group, usually repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group, either physically or emotionally”

Bullying can take many forms, including:

- Name-calling, taunting, teasing, mocking.
- Gossiping, spreading hurtful and untrue rumours.
- Excluding people from groups.
- Kicking, hitting, pushing, intimidating.
- Activities such as unofficial “initiation ceremonies” or practical jokes which may cause physical or emotional harm.
- Taking belongings.
- Unwanted physical contact of a sexual nature, or sexually abusive comments.
- Inappropriate texting and emailing.
- Sending offensive or degrading images by phone or over the internet.

Bullies can be

- Children or young people bullying other children, either younger, older, or within their peer group.
- Children or young people bullying adults.
- Adults bullying children or young people.

Some signs that a child or young person is being bullied are:

- Withdrawal, lack of desire to join activities with certain individuals or groups.
- Drop in academic performance.
- Bruises, torn clothing.
- Needing extra money or supplies.

Bullying always causes a great deal of harm and pain for those on the receiving end. Often those who are bullied believe they have nowhere to turn and are scared to speak out.

Our Promise

- ✓ We will help the children and young people of this church to understand that bullying is unacceptable.
- ✓ We will regularly reassure our children and young people that they can tell us about any incidents of bullying.

When children or young people tell us about bullying, we will

- ✓ Take their allegations seriously.
- ✓ Check all details before we take action
- ✓ Investigate with the aim of stopping bullying as quickly as possible.
- ✓ Tell the parents of the bully and the bullied what has happened.
- ✓ Try to help bullies change their behaviour.
- ✓ Record and report all allegations and incidents of bullying, together with actions taken, and store these safely and securely for an appropriate length of time.