



# LAURUS

---

TRUST

## **Harmful Sexual Behaviours Policy**

**Author – Mrs W Searle**

**Date – November 2021**

**Next review Date – November 2022**

## **HARMFUL SEXUAL BEHAVIOURS**

“Harmful sexual behaviour (HSB) is developmentally inappropriate sexual behaviour which is displayed by children and young people and which may be harmful or abusive. It can be displayed towards younger children, peers, older children or adults. It is harmful to the children and young people who display it, as well as those it is directed towards” (NSPCC 2016)

This may include:

**Sexual Harassment** –creating an intimidating, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment e.g. sexist jokes, sexual comments, flicking bras, and other specific criminal acts such as upskirting or ‘sexting’

**Sexual Abuse** – “forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities” this includes touching someone’s bottom/breasts/genitalia without consent

**Sexual Violence** – rape & assault

HSB includes (but is not limited to):

- Sexist jokes and comments
- Physical and sexual abuse
- Sexual harassment and violence
- Gender based violence
- Emotional harm
- On and offline bullying
- Teenage relationship abuse
- Technology assisted HSB (sexualised behaviour which children or young people engage in using the internet or technology such as mobile phones and tablets)
- CSE (Child Sexual Exploitation)

As a Trust we take a zero-tolerance stance towards any form of bullying, this includes Harmful Sexual Behaviour.

We will take immediate action on any report of HSB.

This can include:

- Sanctions within school
- Discussions with parents/carers
- Discussions with the young people involved
- Restorative approaches
- Referral to support services (and following advice given)
- Referral to the Police (and following directives given)
- Referral to MASSH
- Incidents of HSB should be dealt with under Child Protection procedures
- All incidents will be recorded in school
- Educating pupils with Harmful Sexual Behaviours

As a Trust we will always ensure that the victim is fully supported.

We will also safeguard pupils who demonstrate harmful sexual behaviours, to ensure they understand what is acceptable behaviour and what is not.

### **Education**

As a Trust we deliver a broad and diverse PSHE curriculum and Harmful Sexual Behaviour features strongly within this.

We cover a variety of topics specific to each year group and these include but are not limited to:

- Friendship
- Diversity
- Peer Pressure
- Online safety
- Sexual Orientation
- Relationship Boundaries
- Bullying
- Abuse
- Consent
- Positive relationships
- Managing romantic relationships
- Sexuality
- Empowering students to know when to report, and the variety of ways they can do this
- Tackling a "snitching culture"
- Being positive bystanders

### **Trust staff responsibility**

- All staff **MUST** take a zero-tolerance stance on HSB – it is not acceptable and should be challenged
- This includes behaviour we see in school or is reported to us
- If we hear of these behaviours we will **challenge** and **report**
- Staff will follow the guidance as they would for any safeguarding disclosure from a student
- We will also be **role models** for the students by demonstrating respectful behaviour and use of language

November 2021