

Our Anti-Bullying Policy

At Apollo Sports we take bullying very seriously; we understand the implications it can have on the physical, social and mental welfare of a child. We understand that bullying can occur in any environment, so therefore have put a policy into place that will hopefully prevent bullying/ or address any bullying issues that may occur. It is very important for us to have this policy in place, so everybody understands what behaviour is not appropriate and the consequences of that behaviour. It is important we clarify what bullying is so there is no misunderstanding of how children should behave on camp. This policy shows those who report bullying on camp will be supported.

What we define as bullying.

Bullying is intentional and repetitive. It is not a one of incident or an accident. Bullying can be by one person or by a group. There are different forms of bullying and all will be taken as seriously as the other.

Categories of bullying:

Physical

- Hitting.
- Smacking.
- Kicking.
- Punching.
- Or any other physical contact that is intentionally harmful.

Verbal

- Name calling.
- Threats.
- Offensive remarks.
- Any comments that show homophobic, racial, gender or any minority discrimination.

Indirect

- Spreading stories about someone.
- Gossiping and leaving someone out.
- Stopping somebody having a happy time on camp.

Cyber Bullying

- Taking videos or pictures of anybody without permission on camp.
- Sending nasty text messages, social media messages or emails.
- Making nasty phone calls.

Sexual Bullying

- Inappropriate sexual references and gestures.
- Inappropriate sexual touching.

Apollo Sports staff will decide what is deemed as bullying and will act appropriately to prevent and stop the above definitions.

What to do if your child is being bullied or what your child should do.

Report the incident to any member of staff, staff are trained to be discrete and listen. We will take the issue seriously and speak to both parties involved in a tactful and understanding way.

What happens after the incident is reported

We will gather more information regarding the bullying and then act appropriately to prevent further incidents. The bully or bullies will have their parents/guardians contacted, and a verbal warning.

The bully must then:

- Verbally apologise
- Explain to a member of staff how they will prevent themselves bullying again
- Sign a anti bullying slip that explains if one more incident occurs they understand that they will be immediately removed from camp by their parents/guardians.
- The parents/guardians will have to be present whilst their child signs this slip so everybody is agreed upon the above action.

How can parents/guardians help?

- Read through this policy with your child and help them understand what bullying is, and what will happen if they bully.
- Explain why bullying is wrong to your child and how it can hurt other people.
- Encourage children to report bullying, not just for themselves but others.
- Encourage children to include children who look like they may be alone, and explain that it is nice to be nice.
- Contact and speak to staff whenever you feel you need to...we would rather know every concern so we can investigate it earlier rather than later.

Resources for children and parents who are affected by bullying; whether that be on or off camp:

Beatbullying – www.beatbullying.org.uk

Childline – www.childline.org.uk