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# Bullying Policy

## Definition

Bullying can, and sadly does, occur within Christian organisations. Churches cannot assume this kind of abusive behaviour will never happen when Christians fellowship together

Bullying is the repeated seeking out or targeting of an adult, child or young person to cause them distress and humiliation or to exploit them, including but not limited to exclusion from a peer group, intimidation and extortion."

Bullying can happen to anyone, including pastors and other paid employees of the church, elders, amongst adults whether they volunteer in the church or not, amongst young people and between children. Bullying is a form of abuse.

Increasingly, bullying is taking place online and via the use of smart phones - this is known as 'Cyber bullying'.

## Policy

Bullying is a form of behaviour that is diametrically opposed to the love for one another that Jesus commands must be at the heart of christian relationships. New Life Christian Fellowship does not tolerate bullying by its members and employees.

Where allegations of bullying are made, they will be investigated quickly by the Leadership Team. If found to be true, the perpetrator will be subject to the church's Discipline Policy.

If evidence of criminal behaviour is found, the police must be notified immediately.

# Revisions and Changes

Adopted by Leadership Team: 27/01/2023

Reviewed: August 2025