

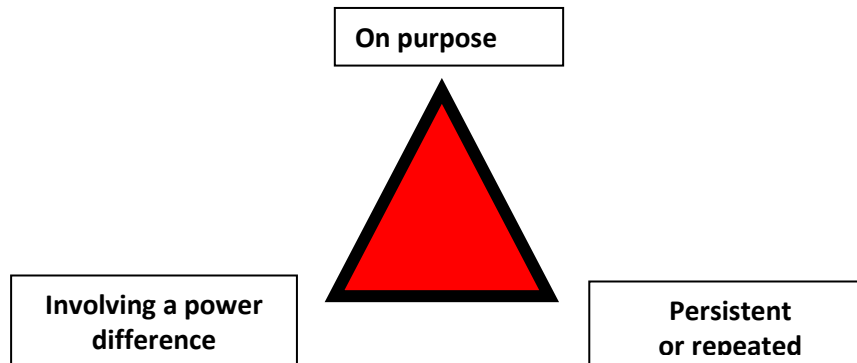
## What is bullying?



**Several Times On Purpose  
Start Telling Other People**

The DCSF (Department for Children, Schools and Families) defined bullying in its 2007 key guidance document 'Safe to Learn' as: "Behaviour by an individual or group, usually repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group physically or emotionally".

We use a simple diagram to represent this to the children:-



In school, following input from the children, we have adopted the acronym **S.T.O.P** to support our understanding of what bullying is: '**Several Times On Purpose**'. Bullying may be for a variety of reasons and the reasons may not be immediately obvious. Bullying can take the form of:

- Physical (hitting, kicking, pinching, theft)
- Verbal (name calling, racist, sexist or homophobic remarks)
- Indirect (spreading rumours, exclusion from social groups, tormenting text messages/emails)

Bullying is behaviour that is meant to be hurtful, and which happens on a regular basis making it difficult for the person concerned to defend themselves. There is usually a power difference between the bully and the victim. The school works hard to ensure that all pupils know the difference between bullying and simply "falling out".