



Statement on Recording and Reporting Racist Incidents

Under the *Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000* and *Home Office Code of Practice on reporting and recording racist incidents (2000)* schools are required to record and investigate all racist incidents and to report them to the Local Authority on a regular basis.

Definition of a racist incident

Cambridgeshire Local Authority and schools, as advised by the Home Office, adopted the definition recommended in the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry Report 1999:

'A racist incident is any incident which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person.'

This definition emphasises perception, so that if anyone thinks an incident is racist it will be recorded and investigated as such, however minor it may seem.

Incidents involving children and adults will be recorded whether or not those responsible intended their behaviour to be racist. It should also be noted that a racist incident does not necessarily have a victim.

Procedures

Parents/carers will be contacted if their child is involved in any way in an alleged racist incident and they will be kept informed of the progress and outcome of any investigation.

Any incident that is alleged or perceived to be racist will be recorded and if, following investigation, it is concluded that it is *not* racist, this outcome will be noted on both the school record of the incident and the report that is submitted to the Local Authority.