
School Ethos

- We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We recognise that bullying can be emotionally damaging and, especially, if left unaddressed it can have devastating impact on the individual. We are determined to promote and develop a whole school ethos where bullying of any kind is unacceptable; this message has a high profile in school.
- We will ensure teachers are well trained, and that they teach a curriculum and provide activities through out the year to educate against and prevent, as far as possible, bullying taking place.
- We will take any incidents very seriously. We aim that all pupils and parents feel able to report it, and to know that they will be supported. All incidents will be dealt with promptly and severely in line with the Behaviour Policy. Staff will determine what will work best for all pupils involved, depending on the particular issues to address and bearing in mind the context behind the behaviour. We will seek external support as appropriate and inform parents/carers through out.

Signs of Bullying

- The signs of bullying are extremely variable so parents and staff need to be vigilant. Common signs can include:
 - physical signs - unexplained bruises etc, damaged clothes or schoolwork,
 - behaviour changes and withdrawal - losing interest in school, concentration difficulties, being withdrawn, shy or secretive, clinging to adults, unusual shows of temper, refusal to say why they are unhappy, high level of anxiety, mood swings, tearfulness for no reason, lack of confidence, signs of depression, hostility, defensiveness or negative self-image
 - not wanting to go to school
 - lots of stomach-aches, headaches or loss of appetite or other non-specific illness.
 - Sometimes these ailments will be real, and sometimes they may be made-up, but whether the illness is real or not, the worry certainly is, so it needs to be taken seriously.
 - Help your child to talk to you about whats going on. Use books and TV plots to open up discussions about bullying. With younger children dolls, teddies or puppets are a good way to help them talk about their worries and feelings. Come in and talk to school.

What do we expect from parents?

- to be aware that Kingsmoor school does not tolerate bullying in any form, and share this with your children
- to support your children by being positive role models and helping them develop positive relationships with friends, other pupils and school teachers – If your children appears not to listen to a word you say – know that they are watching everything you do!
- to make it safe for your child to share their worries about bullying with you, so they know they can rely on you to listen to them and support them
- to ensure their children know to raise concerns with any adult they trust at school – whether they are the victim or a bystander
- to report concerns or incidents of bullying (within school or beyond the school gate) at the earliest opportunity and work in partnership with the school when dealing with the situation. Parents are discouraged from trying to deal with bullying by themselves by either approaching the child or their parents
- to keep in contact with school - for both positive feedback and to raise concerns when needed if a situation has not been dealt with effectively, using the school complaints procedure (available on the website or at the school office)
- There are loads of additional resources on line, your class teacher can point you in their direction if needed – **and there is a great Q and A section in the policy on the website** you are encouraged to read.

What is bullying?

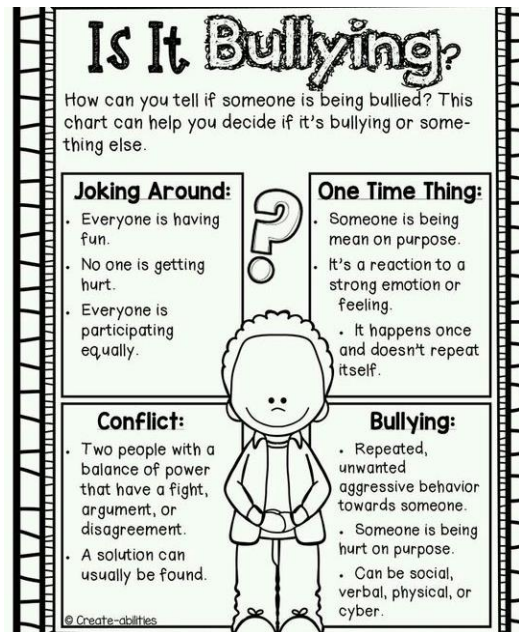
- “Bullying is defined as: “behaviour by an individual or a group, repeated overtime that intentionally hurts another individual either physically or emotionally”. (DfE “Preventing and Tackling Bullying”, July 2017)
- Bullying is deliberate actions meant to be hurtful and can take many forms - emotional, physical, verbal, sexual, cyber/online or prejudicial. It might be motivated by actual differences between children, or perceived differences.

What’s not bullying ?

Bullying is not occasional falling out with friends, especially when two children are of similar age, power or strength and have occasional fights or quarrels.

Children sometimes can fall out or say unkind things because they are upset. We recognise that it is an important part of children’s development to learn how to manage friendship breakdowns, the odd name calling or childish prank.

It is important that children at Kingsmoor learn how to deal with these situations and develop the social skills to repair them. We will help all children do this while they are at Kingsmoor School.



Behaviour and Role Models

- We foster high expectations of good behaviour and we will challenge any behaviour that falls below this.
- We understand the importance of having positive attitudes and supportive relationships. All adults working in our school provide positive role models.
- We emphasise that every pupil is of equal worth, irrespective of age, gender, gender identity, family background, ethnic background or academic attainment.
- We recognise some pupils are more vulnerable to bullying and are very happy to discuss this with concerned parents/carers



Kingsmoor Primary School

Information for Parents and Carers on the Approach to No Bullying at Kingsmoor School
