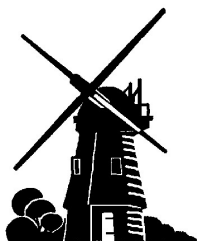


Stapleford Community
Primary School
Anti-bullying
Information
Leaflet
for parents/carers



**Working together to combat
bullying.**

Stapleford Community Primary School will not tolerate any form of bullying. This school believes that pupils have the right to learn and work in an environment where they feel safe and that is free from harassment and bullying. The information in this leaflet is taken from the school's Anti-bullying policy. A full version is on the school website or please ask at the School Office.



What is bullying?

At our school we define bullying as:

The intentional and (usually) persistent physical, verbal or emotional hurting of one person by another person or group of people where the relationship involves an imbalance of power.

Our school council has defined bullying as:

'Bullying is something that happens more than once. Bullying is picking on people weaker than yourself. It is hurting people's feelings physically or mentally.'

How can bullying affect a person?

Bullying can damage a child's physical and mental health, including their self-confidence and ability to build and sustain relationships. It can also destroy self-esteem sometimes with devastating consequences and with the effects lasting into adult life. Bullying undermines the ability to concentrate and learn and can impact on their chances of achieving their full potential at school and later in life.

Working to prevent bullying

Stapleford Community Primary School tries to prevent bullying by:

- Implementing an effective school leadership that promotes an open and honest anti bullying ethos
- Adopting positive behaviour management strategies as part of the Behaviour Policy
- Implementing a whole school approach to the teaching of PSHE and Citizenship.
- Ensuring that the school's anti-bullying statement is actively promoted in assemblies, as well as displayed around the school
- Providing training on behaviour management and anti-bullying for all relevant staff including playground staff.
- Providing a school council and regular circle time, enabling pupils to talk about their feelings and concerns in a safe environment and to enable them to share concerns about bullying.
- Participating in the national annual anti-bullying week and supporting learning on bullying through whole school activities, projects and campaigns.

- Reviewing the development and supervision of the school inside and outside including the outdoor areas and playground to ensure provision is safe, inclusive and supports CYP's emotional wellbeing.
- Providing confidential communication systems such as Worry Boxes, mentoring and counselling services, and working with children to identify key individuals with whom they can confide.
- Providing publicity including information leaflets for pupils and parents/carers to raise awareness of bullying and support those who are being bullied or have witnessed bullying to report incidents and seek help.
- Providing social skills groups for vulnerable individuals and groups.
- Providing cross year group family/house systems to allow CYP from different age groups to socialise and support each other.
- Providing a transition programme to support CYP moving across year groups and key phases.

Is my child being bullied?

The following signs and symptoms could indicate other problems, but bullying may be a possibility:

- Being afraid of coming to school
- Losing confidence and diminishing self-esteem
- Being afraid to say what's wrong
- Developing cuts, bruises or other injuries
- Failure to achieve potential in school work
- Becoming withdrawn, nervous or losing concentration
- Becoming isolated or disengaged from other children
- Developing changes in physical behaviour eg. stammering
- Regularly having clothes or books destroyed
- Possessions going 'missing' or money 'lost'
- Starting to steal to pay child who is bullying
- Becoming easily distressed, aggressive or disruptive
- Developing problems with eating
- Running away
- Developing sleep problems or having nightmares
- Having suicidal thoughts (extreme cases)

What to do if you think your child is being bullied?

- Calmly talk to your child about what has happened. Establish the details of incident/s to share with the school.
- Reassure your child that it is not their fault that the incident/s have happened and encourage them to always tell an adult if they feel threatened or frightened at school.
- Report your concerns to your child's class teacher, Mrs Spain (the headteacher), Mrs Hore (the deputy headteacher) or Ashley Wagstaff (SENCO). You could also email your concerns.

What can you expect if bullying is reported to us?

- Any child or parents who report a bullying concern will be listened to, taken seriously and reassured that action will be taken.
- Facts about the incident/s will be established by listening to the children involved and those who witnessed it. These facts will be recorded in class pastoral files.
- A response will be made. This may be drawn from the school's positive behaviour policy or may follow the support group approach.
- The aim of the response will be to impress upon the perpetrator that what he/she has done is unacceptable; it will aim to deter the bully from repeating the behaviour and deter others from copying.
- Further monitoring will take place to ensure the response has been effective.
- The school will work with the parents/carers of those involved to engage their support in stopping the bullying.

