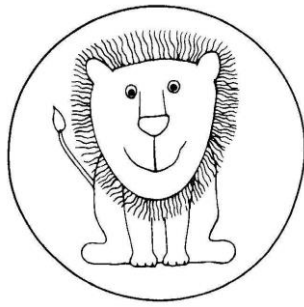




Linslade Lower School

Behaviour and Anti Bullying Information for Parents

If you have any concerns please speak to Mrs
Farlam or your child's class teacher



At Linslade Lower School we aim provide a safe, happy and nurturing learning environment in which everyone is cared for, respected and valued. We work collaboratively and co-operatively with each other and the community. We believe that everyone is entitled to work in a calm and orderly atmosphere in which they feel safe and valued. Positive behaviour management is central to our school ethos and essential for achieving high standards of teaching and learning.

We expect children at Linslade Lower School to:

- be polite and friendly
- be helpful and kind
- be truthful and honest
- be considerate and respectful towards others
- take care of people and property
- accept responsibility for their own actions

As a school we investigate all reported incidents of bullying. We work hard with all families to work through any issues and find a resolution. We follow our Behaviour Policy and take these issues very seriously.

The Anti-Bullying Alliance defines bullying as:

“the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power.”

What Are the Signs of Bullying?

Unless your child tells you about bullying — or has visible bruises or injuries — it can be hard to know if it's happening.

But there are some warning signs. Parents might notice children:

- acting differently or seeming anxious
- not eating, not sleeping well, or not doing the things they usually enjoy
- seem moodier or more easily upset than usual
- avoiding certain situations (like taking the bus to school)

Bullying Temperature Check

GREEN My child seems happy and content. They like to go to school and have good relationships with other children and staff. While they have the occasional situation where others say or do unkind things to them, or they have said or done unkind things to others, they have been able to resolve the situation (including saying sorry if they have hurt someone else).

AMBER My child is sometimes sad and can be reluctant to go to school. While they mention one or two friends, they seem to have regular fall outs with other children and have mentioned a number of situations where children have said or done unkind things to them, or they have said or done unkind things to other children. They seem unsure how to resolve these situations and I am not sure they are receiving enough help.

RED My child is often sad or upset and does not like school or their usual activities. They do not seem to have friends and I am concerned that other children often say or do unkind things to them. They urgently need help to resolve the situation and to enjoy their school and social life.

What we do

Our Behaviour Policy states-

Managing incidents of bullying:

Prevention – good, consistent behaviour management will promote a positive ethos that will help to limit the incidence of bullying.

Planned opportunities will exist within PSHE and assembly to raise the awareness of the nature of bullying and the school policy towards it.

Action – if bullying is suspected or reported the incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff who has been approached.

The member of staff will:

- listen to the child
- inform the Headteacher on the same day

The Headteacher will:

- speak to the pupils concerned and will record information and action in the 'incident file'.
- inform all staff at the staff briefing of the incident and action.
- inform the parents of the children concerned
- appropriate sanctions may be used.

Pupils

When speaking to the pupils involved staff should do so calmly and discreetly.

Pupils who have been bullied will be supported by:

- offering an immediate opportunity to discuss the experience
- reassuring them that they are safe
- offering continuous support from a named member of staff
- restoring self-esteem and confidence

Pupils who have bullied will be helped by:

- discussing what happened
- establishing why it happened
- establishing the wrong doing and the need to change
- supporting the making of good behaviour choices

Just “banter”

The dictionary definition of banter is the: Banter is the playful and friendly exchange of teasing remarks.

Banter between friends can be fun, and is sometimes an integral part of the friendship, when everyone's in on the joke and enjoying themselves, it's an important form of communication that bonds people together.

However, we know it can shift into something unkind and even sometimes, bullying, when someone is upset, hurt, or offended, and the other person refuses to stop. For example, if someone keeps 'teasing' you about something over and over again, even if they can see you're no longer finding it funny, it's shifting into bullying behaviour.

Another form of banter that can shift into bullying behaviour (and sometimes prejudicial behaviour and harassment) is when friends pick on a physical trait or a characteristic of someone in the group and repeatedly use this as a focus of jokes or comments (e.g. physical appearance, disability, sexuality).

Sometimes children hide the embarrassment or hurt it causes them by laughing and can find it hard to speak up to say they don't like something.

Developing strategies- Advice for Parents and Children

Parents can help children learn how to deal with bullying if it happens. For some parents or caregivers, it may be tempting to tell a kid to fight back. After all, you're angry that your child is suffering and maybe you were told to "stand up for yourself" when you were young. Or you may worry that your child will continue to be bullied, and think that fighting back is the only way to put a bully in their place.

But it's important to advise kids not to respond to bullying by fighting or bullying back. It can quickly escalate into violence, trouble, and someone getting injured. Instead, it's best to walk away from the situation, hang out with others, and tell an adult.

Here are some other ways children can improve the situation and feel better:

- **Tell an adult.** Teachers, teaching assistants, the Headteacher, parents, and dinner staff at school can all help stop bullying.
- **Act brave, walk away, and ignore the behaviour.** Firmly and clearly tell the bully to stop, then walk away. Practice ways to ignore the hurtful remarks, like acting uninterested or talking to another friend. By ignoring the bully, you're showing that you don't care. Eventually, the bully will probably get bored with trying to bother you.
- **Talk about it.** Talk to someone you trust, such as a teaching assistant, teacher, sibling, or friend. They may offer some helpful suggestions. Even if they can't fix the situation, it may help you feel a little less alone.

