



7th November 2018

Dear Parents / Carers



Next week is Anti Bullying Week and we have a range of activities planned here in school to raise awareness of this important issue. We are proud that bullying is an infrequent occurrence here and we want to keep it that way! This is what OFSTED say about the behaviour of children at Oak Hill ...

'They have good attitudes to learning.

Relationships between pupils and the adults are very positive. Pupils show a good deal of care and concern for each other.

Discussions with pupils in the playground show they have few concerns about poor behaviour. They say that incidents of misbehaviour are infrequent, but when they occur they are dealt with promptly.

Discussions with pupils show incidents of bullying to be infrequent. Pupils say they would have no hesitation in telling an adult should they have any concerns. They are confident that if bullying occurs it is dealt with firmly. The school's log of such incidents confirms that this is the case.'

The key message needs to be : Let's keep Oak Hill a bully free zone! Here's why:

- To support children and young people to choose **respect**– by understanding the ways in which they are powerful and encouraging individual and collective action to stop bullying and create the best world possible.
- To help parents and carers to be **respectful** – through supporting children with issues relating to bullying and working together with schools to stop bullying.
- To encourage all teachers, school support staff and youth workers to be **respectful** – by valuing the difference they can make in a child's life, and taking individual and collective action to prevent bullying and create safe environments where children can thrive.

This year we have launched a version of our anti-bullying policy that the children have written in their own words. This is on the school website and is used frequently in classes to make sure everyone knows what bullying is, how to prevent it and what to do if it should happen.

How you demonstrate respect as a parent / Carer

- Make sure your child knows they can talk to you if they have any worries or concerns.
- Help them to understand the difference between falling out with friends, being a bit mean and signs that they might be experiencing bullying. Bullying is persistent, there's an intent to cause harm and there's an abuse of power.
- Support your child to grow in confidence, to make friends in a variety of settings and to take part in activities that build their self-esteem. Talk about how they might respond if someone calls them names or tries to hurt them. What could they say back? Who could they go to for help depending on the situation?
- Make sure you're a good role model. Little eyes are always watching us. How we manage conflict in our relationships and how we treat other people has a big impact on our children.

Further resources

Anti-Bullying Alliance has designed a free online information tool that provides parents with interactive content to increase confidence in supporting children with bullying issues. To access the tool visit <http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/parenttool>.



Come to school in odd socks on Monday 12th November. This will remind us that we are all different in lots of ways but that we also have so much in common. It's ok to be different because we know how to respect each other and be kind.

Many thanks
Mrs Stanton
Inclusion Manager and Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator