



How do we deal with Bullying?

Here at Ambleside CE Primary School, we define bullying as:

'Hurting or upsetting someone, several times, on purpose'.

Create a Conversation

We talk openly about bullying in school, about how it feels and about what children can do. The first important step is to tell someone. We encourage the children to tell any member of staff they choose, their parents, their friends or any 'trusted grown up' in their lives. We also tell them that if they feel they are not listened to properly, to go and tell again.

Teaching

We teach children directly through PSHE lessons, circle times and assemblies. We use stories and examples of behaviour to discuss the issues and ways of helping.

We deliver Kidsafe lessons to help children understand the issues of bullying and what to do about it if they are being bullied or if they see somebody else being bullied.

Drama

We have had specialist professional performances and workshops (including those run by the NSPCC) that prove to be a powerful way to engage the children and help them to understand how to help themselves and others.

Anti-Bullying week

We sign up for the National Anti-Bullying week every Autumn Term. During this week we highlight the issue and focus on more anti-bullying sessions, including PSHE lessons and assemblies.

Monitor Behaviour

If bullying or suspected bullying is occurring, members of staff will share their observations and monitor further behaviour. We gather the views of the children and parents.

Record Incidents

We record any incidents associated with a bullying situation so that we can gather an ongoing picture of the situation. This can help us to see if there are any recurring patterns.

Take Action

We have one to one conversations with both victims and perpetrators of bullying. This can shed light on any other connected issues and the reasons behind situations. It can often help children to see another person's point of view. Further to this, we seek counselling where appropriate.

We can separate children to try to break the habit of bullying a particular child. This sometimes means making sure that they sit on separate tables in class or at lunchtimes. It may mean that we make sure they play in different areas in the playground.

We meet with parents as we believe that home/school support is vital, for both victims and perpetrators.

We use behaviour reminder charts (age appropriate) to operate as an incentive towards kinder behaviour.

We sometimes, with the permission of the victim, ask the class to support the situation by making sure that they have someone to play with and to report any incidents. We also encourage them to not stand by and let it happen but to tell the bully that it should stop.

We check in regularly with both the victim and the perpetrator to ask how things are.

In line with our behaviour policy, perpetrators lose Golden Time or miss playtimes when incidents happen. If the situation warranted, we would also consider temporary or permanent exclusions from school.

We record actions taken in a bullying case.

Case by Case

Each case of bullying is unique and we act on a case by case basis. It is not an exact science and we will continue to try different approaches to stop any bullying and keep our children safe.