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## Anti-Bullying Week!



Dear Parents & Carers,

This week is our annual 'Anti-Bullying Week', which is acknowledged at this time every year as a key focus across the country. As such, our whole school focus this week is on 'bullying' and issues relating to this.

'Anti-Bullying Week' provides us with yet another invaluable opportunity to bring issues relating to physical, emotional or 'cyber' bullying to the fore and enables us to heighten children's awareness about the ways in which they might deal with such problems, should they ever arise in our school.

Whilst we pride ourselves at Braybrook, in creating a safe, welcoming and positive learning environment for your children, and information from recent parent surveys has reassured us that bullying is **NOT** a significant problem in our school, we recognise that on occasions children are or may perhaps be perceived as being bullied.

At Braybrook Primary School, we recognise the importance of parental support and involvement in addressing issues relating to bullying and in supporting us in creating a positive ethos and environment in which bullying is seen to be **neither accepted nor tolerated**. In the light of this, we feel that it is important to clarify Braybrook Primary School's definition of bullying and to draw your attention to key points of the 'Anti-bullying Policy', which is available to access in full on our School website at [www.braybrookprimary.co.uk](http://www.braybrookprimary.co.uk).

At Braybrook Primary School, we believe that bullying consists of doing anything **intentionally hurtful** to other children, either physically or emotionally.

- Our school will not tolerate bullying of any kind, whether physical, emotional or through the media of technology.
- Everyone connected with our school, in any capacity, will be tolerant of others, regardless of gender, age, size, race, religion, sexuality, interests, abilities or disabilities.
- Anyone witnessing bullying should inform a member of our staff or Senior Leadership Team at once.
- Everyone connected with our school will be vigilant and on the lookout for instances of bullying, involving children inside or outside the school.
- Children are encouraged to discuss their worries or concerns with members of staff and to seek help when it is needed.



### Recognising Bullying:

We recognise that all schools are likely to have some problem with bullying at one time or another and our school is no exception. The school's anti-bullying policy is essential in helping to reduce and prevent bullying.

#### *At Braybrook Primary School, we define bullying as actions which are:*

- **deliberately hurtful** (including aggression).
- **repeated**, often over a period of time.
- **difficult for victims to defend themselves against.**

#### *We believe that bullying can take many forms, but recognise that the three main types are:*

- **physical** - hitting, kicking, taking belongings.
- **verbal** - name calling, insulting, making offensive remarks, prejudicial.
- **indirect** - spreading nasty stories/pictures about someone, exclusion from social groups, rumours.

### Strategies for reducing bullying:

In common with many schools, at Braybrook Primary School we have found that the best approach for tackling bullying incidents is to use a combination of strategies, which can be drawn on and adapted to fit the circumstances of particular incidents. We recognise that a single strategy on its own is unlikely to provide a complete solution to the problem. However, by ensuring that bullying issues are regularly brought to pupils' attention, we can help to ensure that an anti-bullying culture develops throughout the school. (Strategies are detailed fully in our policy on the website.)

### Should your child have been bullied:

- calmly talk with your child about the experience.
- make a note of what they say: who was involved / where it happened / what happened / how often.
- reassure your child that they have done the right thing by telling you.
- tell your child that if it happens again they should tell a teacher immediately.
- make an appointment to see your child's teacher.
- explain the problems your child is having to the teacher.

We hope that this information will not cause undue alarm or concern but support you, as parents and carers, in understanding the seriousness with which we regard **ALL** issues or incidents relating to bullying.

Should you wish to know more, regarding the school's policies or procedures, please refer to our website policy or contact any member of staff if you wish to discuss any concerns.

Yours faithfully,

Miss E Green  
(Headteacher)

