

For more information on Anti-Bullying at King's Meadow School, please see our Anti-Bullying Policy at

<http://www.kings-meadow.oxon.sch.uk/Anti-BullyingPolicy10.16.pdf>

Helplines and websites

Anti-bullying Alliance

<http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk>

Oxfordshire County Council

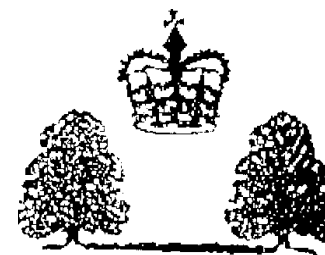
<http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/keeping-children-safe>

Childnet

<http://www.childnet.com/resources/know-it-all-for-parents>

The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP)

www.thinkuknow.co.uk



KING'S MEADOW SCHOOL

Anti-Bullying

Information for Parents and Carers



What is Bullying?

Bullying is a continuous pattern of behaviour by one person or a group, which is designed to hurt, injure, embarrass, upset or intimidate.

Bullying behaviour may include: name-calling; taunting; mocking; making offensive or threatening comments; kicking; hitting; pushing; taking belongings; inappropriate text messaging and emailing; sending offensive or degrading images by phone or via the internet; producing offensive graffiti; gossiping; excluding people from groups; and spreading hurtful and untruthful rumours.

It is essential to differentiate between bullying and bossiness, and bullying and boisterous behaviour.

Bullying is **not:** A one-off argument or fight or a friend sometimes being nasty

At King's Meadow School we take bullying very seriously. We do not tolerate bullying in any form and teach all children that no-body deserves to be bullied. We are a TELLING school: we encourage all members of our school community to report bullying.

If your child is being cyberbullied

- Make sure your child does not retaliate or reply to cyberbullying messages of any kind.
- If you need to, you can help your child to change their contact details (email, online username, mobile phone number).
- Use the security tools on your family's computer, on websites or on your child's mobile phone.
- Save evidence of offending emails, text messages or online conversations.
- Report cyberbullying. You can report the incident to school, the website or service provider, and, in serious cases, the police.

Cyber-bullying - bullying that occurs via mobile phone or the internet.

Key rules for your child

- Think before you send a picture or message about yourself or any other person. It doesn't take long for it to be shared with every single person you know. What you think of as a joke might be really upsetting for the other person.
- Never give out personal information when it can be shared with others. You may trust your new friends but you don't know his or her friends.
- Treat your password like your toothbrush – don't share it with anyone!
- If you receive nasty messages, texts, comments etc, block the person sending them and always report it to an adult (your parent, teacher).
- Don't reply to a bullying message but do keep it – whether it is a picture, message or online posting.

Bullying Roles and Behaviours

We do not talk about 'bullies' or 'victims'. This is because words like these label people. We are talking about behaviour, not a fixed way a person *is*. We are all capable of bullying behaviour.

There are different roles within bullying.

- The ring-leader, actively intimidating, or through their social power, directing bullying activity.
- Assistants/associates, who actively join in the bullying (sometimes because they are afraid of the ring-leader).
- Reinforcers, who give positive feedback to the bully, perhaps by smiling or laughing.
- Outsiders/bystanders, who stay back or stay silent and thereby appear to condone or collude with the bullying behaviour.
- Defenders, who try and intervene to stop the bullying or comfort pupils who experience bullying.

Bullying is deeply damaging for both the person being bullied and the person doing the bullying.

Whole School Anti-bullying Work

Throughout the year we teach our children SEAL (Social, Emotional Aspects of Learning). This involves assemblies and class work which develop social, emotional and behavioural skills in children:

- Self awareness
- Managing Feelings
- Motivation
- Empathy
- Social skills

National Anti-Bullying week usually takes place at the end of November. At King's Meadow School, we link a whole school anti-bullying campaign with SEAL curriculum activities: 'Say No to Bullying'. We teach the children about what bullying means and how bullying makes people feel.

Our Class and School Councils regularly discuss our Anti-Bullying work and Policy.

We will help all children involved in bullying and involve their parents/carers in our programmes of support.

What to do if your child is being bullied

- Help your child to talk to you.
- Praise your child for telling you.
- Help your child feel valued and important.
- Make sure your child knows who to go to for help.
- Tell your child you need to involve the school.
- Collect any evidence eg who did what, when, and what was said and done.
- Keep any text messages, emails or website comments.

What to do if your child is a witness to bullying

- Help your child to tell you what is happening.
- Remind your child that they are not 'grassing', they are helping stop a dangerous situation.
- Talk to your child about what they can do to help a child who is being bullied:
 - tell a teacher what is going on
 - be friendly to the other child
 - include the other child in games

What to do if you are told your child is bullying others

- Listen to their side of the story.
- Try not to call them a 'bully' – it's a label that sticks.
- Remind them that you love them – it's the behaviour that you do not like.
- Talk to them about other people's feelings and how much their behaviour hurts, upsets and frightens the person they are bullying.
- Talk to them about anything that is making them unhappy or angry.