

Anti-Bullying Approach

Bullying is a term that we are all so familiar with, having almost certainly experienced elements of this in life. In many ways, it is the most emotive word in schools underpinning one of our biggest fears and yet the term is also one of the most misused words, often leading to disparity between the school and families on the matter.

What is certain, ignoring bullying concerns serves nobody: unhappy and scared pupils struggle with learning or even attending; upset and frustrated families represent a failing of the school. Ultimately, nobody would allow their child to attend a school that is not safe. Therefore, all schools take anti-bullying seriously with our focus as follows:

- From a preventative approach: every child has an emotion peg to inform the teacher non-verbally if they are scared or upset, resulting in a check-in; we hold an annual survey of every pupil with one-to-one follow ups with any child who reports an issue or is unclear about bullying; an anti-bullying committee whose ambassadors have been recognised for the last three years by the Diana Anti-Bullying Award for their work.
- When families report or we spot concerns, I will speak with all the children involved separately; review this with staff and potentially reorganize seating and groups; we track all play for a period of weeks to try and identify incidents of negative behaviour to address; we schedule regular 'check-ins' to ensure we are not missing anything. This year, we have had three issues raised and therefore, we have completed around 45 hours of additional supervision and 15 hours of discussion to try to address issues.
- Whenever a family makes a formal bullying complaint or we identify an issue, we have to complete a full investigation documenting this in writing and feeding this back in person to all families involved. We have not completed one of these in four years.

Central to this, is being very clear on a definition of bullying and as such we use one from the Anti-Bullying Alliance which focuses on four key criteria: **hurtful, repetitive, intentional and power imbalance**. We have 325 children in school: all still learning their social skills; all learning personal space and all learning where the line is in terms of negative behaviour. Moreover, each comes from a different family with their own views of where that line. Due to the nature of school, after a few years in the same class, a pair of children can soon accumulate thousands of hours together so it is inevitable that we will we have incidents of repetitive and sometimes hurtful behaviour between some. Whilst unwanted and something the school will address, this is still not necessarily bullying. Where a child is not purposely targeting and looking to cause distress or where children are choosing to continually play with the same people or the same game despite their being harm caused, it is not always possible for the school to say that there is the intention or power imbalance needed to constitute applying the label of bullying. Either way, we want to know about any issues causing distress or harm; we will do everything we can to address these through our behaviour policy, but we will not label a child a bully unless we are totally certain.

Parent Teacher Association

The PTA have been busy getting the new Sensory Garden ready for the children. Mrs Saddleton joined us on Thursday for the grand opening. We hope that the children enjoy the new space. In June/July you'll see the PTA ever more present in the school as we will be selling ice pops on Friday's after school, we'll be selling refreshments at the sports days, we'll be at the new parents meeting and we also have our Summer fair and discos to finish the year.

Mandatory Hat for Play

With summer finally upon us, please can we remind all families that we operate a 'no hat, no play' policy in the final half-term. Please can you make sure your child has a hat in school for this whole period as we stick with this rule regardless of weather to make it simpler.

Staff Changes

We are excited to welcome Mrs. Clemente to our teaching staff for September. Mrs. Salmons will be working part-time next year with Mrs. Clemente completing this job share with Pine class. We hope that new parents will be able to meet both teachers at our Transition to Y1 session on Monday 22nd June.

Diary Dates

JUNE			
1st	Monday		Children return to school
1st - 12th			Year 4 Statutory MTC
1st	Monday	11:30	Springwood High School Teachers to visit Y6's
2nd	Tuesday	10:00 - 14:00	Y5/6 Girls Cricket Event at Grimston CC - selected children
2nd - 3rd	Tue-Wed		Reception Hearing and Vision check
3rd	Wednesday		Rowan class last swimming lesson
8th	Monday	9:30	KES Teachers to visit Y6's
9th	Tuesday	9:30 - 12:00	Acorns class - Additional PE session
10th	Wednesday	9:00 - 11:00	Booster swimming lessons - Selected Y4,5,6 children
10th	Wednesday	11:00 - 13:00	EYFS Local Area walk and Picnic
11th	Thursday	9:00 - 15:00	Y4 and Y5 Climbing Wall
11th	Thursday	9:00 - 12:00	Mental Health Support Team - Y6 Transition
11th	Thursday	19:00 - 20:00	New Reception Intake 2025 - Parent Meeting
12th	Friday	9:00 - 12:00	Y3 and Y6 Climbing Wall
15th	Monday	10:00 - 11:30	KS1 Active Kids Festival - Lynnsport - selected children
16th	Tuesday	9:30 - 12:00	Conkers class - Additional PE session
18th	Thursday	9:15 - 14:00	Y5 Maths Challenge - KES - selected children
18th	Thursday	17:45	Y6 Public Speaking Competition at COWA
19th	Friday	9:30 - 11:30	KS2 Sports Day
19th	Friday	13:15 - 14:30	EYFS and KS1 Sports Day
22nd	Monday	9:15 - 11:15	Y3's Healthy Body/Healthy Mind - Part One
22nd	Monday	15:30 - 16:15	Transition to Y1 Parent Meeting - EYFS Parents
23rd	Tuesday	9:30 - 12:00	Rowan Class - Additional PE
25th	Thursday	15:30 - 16:15	Passport to Juniors Meeting - Year 2 parents
26th	Friday	10:00 - 12:00	Mini Tennis Competition - Lynnsport - Y5/6 Selected children
26th	Friday	15:30 - 16:15	Welcome to Year 5 meeting - Year 4 parents
29th June - 1st July	Mon - Weds		KLA Transition Days for Year 6
29th June - 1st July	Mon - Weds		KES Transition Days for Year 6
29th	Monday	9:15 - 11:15	Y3's Healthy Body/Healthy Mind - Part Two
29th	Monday	15:30 - 16:15	Welcome to Year 6 Meeting - Year 5 Parents
30th	Tuesday	9:30 - 12:00	Cedar class - Additional PE Session