

FOLVILLE JUNIOR SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2024



RESPECT WEEK

Anti-Bullying Week 2024
Monday 11th - Friday 15th November

Dear Parents and Carers,

Next week, we will be participating in Anti-Bullying Week, which is being observed across the country. The theme this year is Respect.

As a school, we have established respect as one of our core expectations. Understanding how to show respect and doing this every day is essential in reducing bullying and creating a positive and safe school environment.

Throughout the week, there will be various activities for the children to take part in and lots of discussions about what respect looks like. We will explore how respect can be shown through our words, actions, and attitudes towards others.

There will be an assembly on Monday to discuss respect and lessons and discussions in the classroom. On Tuesday, the 12th of October, it is **odd socks day** to show that we are all different but equal. There is no charge for this. We'd love to see your crazy odd socks.

We are also launching our new anti-bullying policy for feedback from parents before it is agreed with our governing body. We have attached a link to it here and would encourage you to read it. If you wanted to give feedback on this please do send an email to the school office.

We encourage you to talk with your children about the importance of respect and how they can demonstrate it at home, at school, and in the community. Together, we can continue to develop a culture of respect and kindness that helps prevent bullying.

With Best Wishes

Claire Cooke
Head Teacher

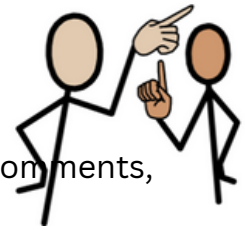


What is Bullying?

Bullying is defined as unwanted, aggressive behaviour between children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. This behaviour is repeated and is intended to cause upset or hurt.

Different types of bullying:

Verbal Bullying: Includes teasing, name-calling, inappropriate sexual comments, taunting, and threatening to cause harm.



Social Bullying: Involves hurting someone's reputation or relationships, such as spreading rumours, excluding them on purpose, or embarrassing someone in public.

Physical Bullying: Includes hitting, kicking, pinching, spitting, tripping, pushing, taking or breaking someone's things, and making mean or rude hand gestures.

Cyberbullying: Bullying that takes place over digital devices like cell phones, computers, and tablets. It includes sending, posting, or sharing negative, harmful, false, or mean content about someone else.

What is the Difference Between Bullying and Unkind or Rough Behaviour

Whilst remembering that bullying is a very serious issue, it is essential to separate it from other types of behaviour that, although it is unkind or disruptive, is not bullying. This is so we can identify when bullying is happening.

Unkind Behaviour: This can include one off incidents of mean or hurtful comments or actions. While these behaviours are unacceptable and always addressed in school, they do not involve a power imbalance or repeated actions.

Rough Behaviour: This is high-energy, noisy, and sometimes rough play that is normal among children. While it can sometimes lead to accidental harm or hurt feelings, it is not intended to cause harm and does not involve a power imbalance or repeated aggression.

Questions you can ask your child to see if it is bullying or unkind behaviour?

- "Has this happened more than once?"
- "Did the other child say or do something to hurt you on purpose?"
- "Do you feel scared or upset when you see this person?"



How do we tackle bullying at Folville?

At our school, we work hard to tackle bullying. When concerns arise, teachers will first speak to the children involved individually to understand the situation from all perspectives.

They will also try to mediate between the children, if possible, to resolve conflicts. During these conversations, teachers will ask questions to determine whether the behaviour is isolated or part of a repeated pattern.

We talk to the children about what kind behaviours look like, helping them understand the importance of respect and kindness in their behaviours.

If there are concerns about bullying, we log these incidents in our bullying record. This allows us to track repeated behaviours and identify patterns that may indicate bullying.

Once we have gathered sufficient information, we will decide whether the behaviour is bullying or needs further monitoring. Monitoring involves observing the children's behaviour over time and keeping detailed records of ongoing concerns.

If it is confirmed as bullying, we handle each case individually according to our behaviour policy. This includes working closely with both sets of parents to support the child who has been bullied and to help improve the behaviour of the child who is the bully.

What do you do if you are worried that your child is being bullied?

- Talk to Your child when you and they are calm
- Ask them specific questions to understand the situation better:
- Speak to the Class Teacher
- Keep Records
- Encourage Positive Coping Strategies
- Remind your child to speak to one of their three safe people in school.

Folville Draft Bullying Policy

Click the link to read the policy

