

Moor Hall School Anti-Bullying Guidance for Parents

If your child displays some of the following signs this may be an indication that they are being bullied:

- be unwilling to go to school
- begin doing poorly in their school work or show variation in performance
- have clothes or possessions which are damaged, destroyed or lost.
- become withdrawn, clingy, moody aggressive, uncooperative or non-communicative
- show a marked change in a well established pattern of behaviour
- have sleep or appetite problems
- complain of illness more frequently
- have unexplained bruises, scratches, cuts or pains
- have their possessions go 'missing'

However, it must be remembered that these signs can also be an indication of other problems and may not always be linked to bullying.

If your child has been bullied, whatever form of bullying including racist, homophobic or electronic bullying connected with school:

- calmly talk with your child about his/her experiences
- make a note of what your child says including who was involved, how often the bullying has occurred, where it happened and what happened or ask your child to keep his / her own diary.
- reassure your child that he/ she has done the right thing to tell you about the bullying
- explain to your child that should any further incidents occur he/she should report them to a member of staff immediately.
- make an appointment to see your child's class teacher
- explain to the teacher the problems your child is experiencing.

If you are not satisfied

- make an appointment to discuss the matter with the Behaviour Coordinator (Miss Jones) and keep a record of the meeting.
- if none of the above has resolved the problem to your satisfaction, check the schools complaints procedures (available on the school website) and follow the process that is outlined.

This may involve writing to the Chair of Governors at the school. The Governors will investigate and may invite you to meet to discuss your concerns

If your child is bullying others:

- talk with your child and explain that what he/she is doing is unacceptable, and makes other children unhappy
- find out if there is anything that is troubling them and try to suggest ways to sort it out
- explain that walking away from a situation where they can feel that things are getting out of hand is not a weakness
- discourage other members of your family from bullying behaviour or from using aggression or force to get what they want
- show your child how he/ she can join in with other children without bullying
- make an appointment to see your child's teacher and explain the problems your child is experiencing as well as discussing how you can work together to stop him / her bullying others.
- regularly check with your child how things are going at school
- give your child lots of praise and encouragement when he/ she is co-operative or kind to other people.

If your child is experiencing any form of electronic bullying:

- ensure your child is careful to whom they give their mobile phone number and email address. Check carefully on your child's use of the internet and make sure it takes place in a place where adults are present
- check exactly when a threatening message was sent. Print or save a copy of the message received if possible.

If you have any reason to believe this is linked to school, other pupils or staff then follow the procedure above. Where this is not linked to school and other pupils you may need to report incidents to the police.