

HOW TO INCLUDE PARENTS

IN YOUR SCHOOL'S

ANTI-BULLYING WORK



Everyone has a role to play in tackling bullying behaviour in school. Research shows that bullying behaviour at school is the biggest concern amongst parents (Childcare, 2019). Therefore, it is essential for your school to have a shared vision about bullying behaviour so that the whole school community knows how to respond fairly and consistently when bullying behaviour occurs. A key element of this is involving parents and carers in your school's anti-bullying work.

TOP TIPS FOR INCLUDING PARENTS IN YOUR SCHOOL'S ANTI-BULLYING WORK:

PARENT SURVEYS_

It is important to find out about the type of bullying behaviour that parents hear about and how they feel about tackling it. Therefore, one of the best ways to get parents to engage with your school's anti-bullying work is through surveys that capture their feedback. This feedback not only helps parents contribute positively to their child's learning experience, but it can also be an indicator of a school's overall success. By sharing their opinions, parents can provide useful insights about bullying behaviour that may otherwise go unnoticed.

PROMOTE YOUR ANTI-BULLYING POLICY_

It is a legal requirement in England for every school to have an Anti-Bullying policy and your school must have clear guidance and measures in place to prevent all forms of bullying behaviour. All parents and carers should be aware of the school's Anti-Bullying Policy, so they know what to expect if an incident occurs. Ensure that your Anti-Bullying policy is accessible to everyone including parents. You can encourage parents to contribute to developing this via consultations or parents' meetings. Remember to make it visible, stick it around school and ask the SLT if you can put a copy in students' planners so that parents can access it easily.

OPEN EVENING_

Ask the Senior Leadership team if your Anti-Bullying Ambassador team can talk to parents at your school's Open Evening. You could do a short assembly on how your school tackles bullying behaviour and keeps students safe.

SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS_

Does your school have a social media page? You could use this to promote any events the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors are hosting and invite parents to attend. Regular updates via the school newsletter and website is also an effective way of keeping parents updated on Anti-Bullying Ambassador news and events.

PARENT WORKSHOPS_

Why not run a mini anti-bullying training session for parents? Use your knowledge to teach parents top anti-bullying tips and skills and play games like Human Bingo to break the ice.

ACHIEVEMENTS ASSEMBLY_

A big event is a great way to celebrate and raise awareness of your school's Anti-Bullying achievements. You could take over an assembly and hold an Anti-Bullying Award Ceremony to recognise those people who have shown kindness to others in some way over the school year. Raise awareness by inviting parents to show them how your school prevents bullying behaviour from happening.

PARENT CLUB_

Invite parents to a lunch time or after school meeting and explain the role of the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, what you have planned and how they can get involved.

MORE RESOURCES_

Our online Resource Centre offers practical tools and ideas to help support your Anti-Bullying work and build the skills necessary for creating a safe and inclusive environment in school. Please visit: www.antibullyingpro.com/resources

REFERENCES_

www.childcare.co.uk/blog/bullying-2019

We're proud to be the only charity set up in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales, and her belief that young people have the power to change the world. It's a big mission but there are two things within it that we focus our charity's efforts on – young people and change.

Throughout all of our programmes and initiatives, 'change' for and by young people is central, including our anti-bullying work which encourages change in attitudes and behaviours.

We hope you found this resource useful and wish you all the best in your anti-bullying journey. If you would like to help us create more resources and train even more Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, you can make a £5 donation by texting CHANGE 5 to 70470 or visit diana-award.org.uk/donate

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