

Case study: Using the School Council to educate the school community about what constitutes bullying

How Bruche Primary School has sought to clarify the definition of bullying amongst both pupils and parents

This case studies main focuses have been to:

- To clarify what bullying is so pupils and parents know what constitutes bullying
- Use the School Council to engage pupils in this topic
- To empower pupils to take the lead in tackling bullying

Background on the School

To educate parents and staff around acts of bullying and appropriate terminology, through the work of their children. We want to empower children to be able to assess behaviour to ensure it is dealt with appropriately.

Desired outcome

Parents and children will have a clear definition of what bullying is, as agreed and explained by the children themselves.

Parents and children will know when it is appropriate to use the term 'bullying' and what constitutes it.

What is the action we took?

The School Council asked each class to research bullying behaviour. Each class (Y1-Y6) was then asked to write a class definition of what they believe bullying to be. These were then brought to and shared at a School Council meeting.

The School Council took aspects of each class definition to devise a whole school version that has been shared and agreed with staff. This has been printed in our school planner so that each child/family has a copy that can be referred to and discussed at school and at home.

The children were also keen to add a list of behaviours that they feel sure are not bullying to help other children, staff and their parents make judgements and resolve situations.

Outcome

Children, staff and parents now have an agreed child friendly description of what bullying is and is not that they can put their hands on at any time of the school day or at home. The children feel more confident about discussing bullying as they feel they have a better understanding of the behaviour. Children feel empowered to discuss, share and educate others including parents and community

Case study: Using the School Council to educate the school community about what constitutes bullying

members around the subject.

Anti-Bullying Ambassadors (not official name yet) will turn definitions into posters to display around school.

Learning

We found that some parents had misconceptions as to what constitutes bullying. We found that using the children's work to clarify meaning and behaviours was received well by parents.