

Case study: Mona – Primary school



Mona is an eight-year-old girl and has a condition that makes the bones in her legs grow differently; because of this she often walks and runs much more slowly than her classmates. Her class mates often pretend to let her play and join in with them at playtime. They run off, claim it's part of the game and continue playing in a further area of the playground. When she finally catches up with them – they run off again. Mona eventually gets fed up and just sits in one place on her own. This routine happens most lunch and break times.

In class when the teacher asks the class to get in groups for science practical Mona is often left on her own and this makes her feel bad.

In PE Mona is the last one to be chosen for a team game.

Sometimes other children say they don't want to catch what she has got and so don't want to come too close to her.

It is affecting her sleep and she does not enjoy school anymore. The teacher does not seem to notice what is going on or know how to deal with it.

Questions

- Is what the other children are doing to Mona bullying?
- What type of bullying is this?
- What should the school do?
- Write a story about what happens to Mona now