



Anti-Bullying at Woodsetton School Newsletter

'DfE guidance defines bullying as actions that are meant to be hurtful, and which happen on a regular basis. Bullying can be direct (either physical or verbal) or indirect (e.g. being ignored or not spoken to).

Our History

In 2019, we introduced an Anti-Bullying Ambassadors programme at Woodsetton School to help promote friendships, celebrate differences and to raise awareness of the effects of bullying, making Woodsetton a happy and safe place to be. The Anti-Bullying Ambassadors programme has trained over 24,000 young people across the UK to lead on anti-bullying campaigns in their schools. Our ambassadors were involved in a one-day training programme, where we were joined by other special schools in Dudley....we even had a special lunch!



Following the training, our Ambassadors met in school every month to discuss Anti-Bullying at Woodsetton and together we organised a programme of events.

This is what we did:

- Anti-Bullying launch – Every child had a balloon to write their problems or worries on, some children drew a picture. We released the balloons into the school, while singing and celebrating this exciting time
- Watched a performance from a visiting theatre company about 'friends and friendships'
- Feel Good Friday – Children and staff came to school in their slippers and comfortable clothes and joined in Yoga and mindfulness activities
- Led whole school assemblies raising awareness of bullying

In February 2020, we recruited more ambassadors to join our team. We had a very special visitor in school called George Craig, who supported us in completing the Diana Award Ambassadors workbook, with the aim to achieve recognition for the work we were doing. Our ambassadors led several whole school assemblies and classes created posters that were displayed around school. We planned a whole year of fun events to promote the amazing work we do. We even attended special governor meetings explaining what we had done and what we were planning to do, but, Covid19 Lockdowns put a stop to our plans!



What are we doing now?

When school fully reopened following lockdown, the posts of Anti-Bullying Ambassadors were advertised. I was overjoyed when our previous Ambassadors indicated they wanted to continue in their role. We also recruited two more members following class votes.

Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors Team includes:

- 1 Pupil from Butterfly Class
- 2 Pupils from Squirrel Class
- 3 Pupils from Owl Class
- 1 Pupil from Frog Class
- 1 Pupil from Hedgehog Class

Every pupil has been awarded a certificate and badge to commend their commitment to the work they will be completing in school. We will initially be meeting every fortnight to focus on our role and responsibilities. We will then work together to plan projects to promote friendships, celebrate differences and to raise awareness of bullying. It is an exciting time for us all and I look forward to working alongside such an enthusiastic and empathetic team of young people.

Mrs Harding