



REDHILL
ACADEMY TRUST

Hall Park Academy Anti-Bullying Newsletter

Hall Park Academy is committed to providing a safe, caring and friendly environment for learning for all our students to allow them to maximise their potential. We would expect students to act safely and feel safe in our academy and feel confident to seek support from our academy should they feel they or others are unsafe. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our academy. We want parents to be confident that their children are safe and cared for in academy and that incidents, when they do arise, are dealt with promptly and well.

Bullying is deliberate, hurtful behaviour, either physical or psychological, which is unprovoked and is repeated over a period of time.

Reporting bullying

We have clear systems for reporting bullying for the whole academy community. This is for those who are the victims of bullying or have witnessed bullying behaviour. To report bullying you can:

- Tell any member of staff
- Email anti-bullying@hallparkacademy.org.uk
- Use the anti-bullying box in the House Support office

All reported incidents will be taken seriously and investigated thoroughly. There are many other behaviours that can be unpleasant and need to be addressed but are not necessarily bullying; although they can potentially develop into bullying. Any such incidents should be reported to the academy and will be dealt with to prevent this from happening.

Anti-bullying

We believe that the best way to tackle bullying is to ensure that an inclusive environment, in which every member of the community is valued and respected, is maintained. We are currently working with two organisations, the Anti-Bullying Alliance and the Princess Diana Trust, to implement our anti-bullying strategy. We have set up an anti-bullying ambassadors scheme; a student-led initiative with a team of students from all year groups, who work with staff to target specific issues raised by students. Their role is promoting a bullying-free culture and a community of kindness. Recently they have visited all tutor groups to discuss the difference between bullying and banter and how it can make people feel. They will coordinate an event in July called 'It's alright to be me' and preparing resources to help every child in the academy express who they are and be confident to do so.

Mr Dolman is the member of the Senior Leadership Team leading on the anti-bullying initiative. If you would like your child to become an anti-bullying ambassador or have any suggestions, please contact him on dolmand@hallparkacademy.org.uk.

How can parents support their children with respect to bullying?

The support of those at home can help to prevent bullying or reduce its impact.

- Be observant of unusual behaviour; for example, if your child shows a sudden reluctance to attend academy, feels ill regularly, fails to complete work to the usual standard or keeps asking for extra money.
- Listen and reassure your child – the bullying is not their fault. Try to establish the facts.
- Find out what your child wants to happen next. Help to identify the choices open to them; the potential next steps to take; and the skills they may have to help solve the problems.
- Inform the academy immediately that you suspect bullying via your child's tutor, pastoral support assistant or Head of House or the email address in the reporting bullying section above.
- Advise your child not to fight back but to stand up for themselves by informing someone who will help. Remember that telling someone who can help is a form of standing up for yourself.
- Support your child. Reassure them action will be taken to make the bullying stop but also to develop a resilience to both minimise the impact upon them and to report the perpetrators immediately.
- Reassure your child that there is nothing wrong with them
- Make sure you and your child are aware of the academy's Anti-bullying Policy and guidance.
- Avoid posting about the situation on Social Media; this is likely to make the situation more difficult for all parties. If the bullying is occurring via Social Media, report it to the provider.
- If you are unhappy with the way in which the academy is dealing with the situation, escalate your concerns to the Senior Leadership Team.