

9 November 2021

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2021

Dear families,

As parents and carers, we all want our children to be happy and safe and it is natural to worry about bullying - particularly if we have experienced bullying ourselves, or we think our child may be more vulnerable to bullying. The good news is that bullying is extremely rare at Longdendale! Along with our external partners, we are here to work with children, families and teachers to help keep children safe.



Every November schools throughout the United Kingdom take part in Anti-Bullying Week. This is an opportunity to shine a spotlight on bullying and consider the steps we can take together to stop it. **Anti-Bullying Week 2021 is taking place from Monday 15th to Friday 19th November this year and it has the theme 'One Kind Word'**. At Longdendale we have a number of exciting activities and events planned to raise awareness across the school.



Odd Socks Day marks the start of Anti-Bullying Week and this year it's taking place on **Monday 15th November**. By wearing odd socks, your child will be celebrating what makes us all unique and spread kindness. There is no pressure to wear the latest fashion or to buy expensive items. All your child needs to do to take part is wear odd socks to school (**if they choose to wear a skirt these need to be worn OVER the top of their black tights**), it couldn't be simpler! Odd Socks day will take place on the first day of Anti-Bullying Week to help raise awareness of bullying. We would like to invite your child to **make a 50p donation** - or any donation you think appropriate - to support the Anti-bullying Alliance in continuing to campaign against bullying.

As a parent or carer, you are a vital piece of the puzzle in tackling bullying. You have a unique role to play in guiding and supporting your child through their school years and there are lots of positive steps you can take to help keep your child safe from bullying and harm. One of the steps is knowing when to ask for support. At the end of this letter we have included details of organisations like Kidscape who can help. We have provided you with a link to a tool, that was written with Kidscape and designed to give you information about bullying, tips about what to do if you're worried about bullying, the tools to help you talk to your children about bullying.

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/attachments/Anti-Bullying%20Week%202021%20-%20Parent%20Pack%20-%20FINAL.pdf>

If you would like any further information about our plans for next week, or you have any additional questions around the wider topic of bullying, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me by contacting the school office on 01457 764006.

Yours faithfully,

Jenny Willis

Assistant Headteacher

