

Making friends and keeping safe at Fairburn View Primary School

At Fairburn View Primary School, we want all of our children to feel safe and to achieve. We encourage positive attitudes and discourage behaviour which can lead to bullying. We also recognise that other incidents may happen in school which make children unhappy, but which are not bullying behaviour.

Please read through this leaflet with your child and talk about anything that worries them. If you have any questions or concerns raised by topics discussed in this leaflet, please speak to a member of our staff.

My friend won't play with me

Sometimes close friends may want to join an activity with other children which may mean that your child cannot play with their friend. Please explain to your child that this is a normal part of friendship and does not mean they are being bullied.

Encourage your child to make a group of friends and if they ever feel lonely, they can always talk to an adult on duty in the playground or their teacher.

Joanna is feeling unhappy and left out because her friend is playing a game with another friend. She knows she needs to tell an adult on the playground who will reassure her and help her find other friends she can play with.

Bumps and scrapes

Sometimes children hurt each other by accident. This is all part of growing up and does not mean they are being unkind to each other. Help your child understand this and that if they are hurt, they should go to the nearest adult who will ensure they are taken care of.

It is also important children learn to say "sorry" if they hurt someone by accident.

Abbie was upset when she fell over after her friend Joanna bumped into her when they were playing outside. Joanna said "sorry" and she told Abbie it was an accident. Abbie is much happier knowing her friend did not mean to hurt her. Now Abbie will find an adult to care for the scrapes on her knee.



Insulting someone and name calling

It is unfriendly to tease someone because they are different from you. Mean words can make a child feel very sad. Think about how you would feel if unkind things were said about you or your family or friends.

If anyone says hurtful things to you, come and talk to us at the school - we will help.

Ben is upset because other children are saying mean things because he is in a wheelchair. He knows he can talk to a teacher or an adult on the playground who will deal with it. They will ensure the children know this is wrong and the adults will also find Ben some kind friends to play with. Ben will then feel safe and happy again.



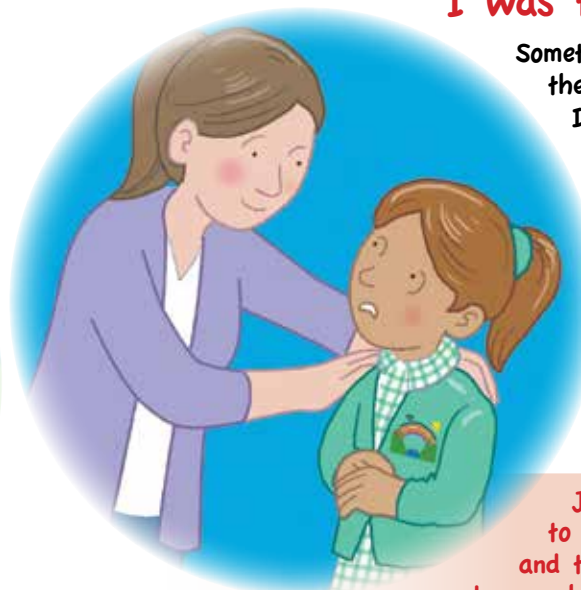
I was told to go away

Sometimes children can be thoughtless in the way that they talk to each other.

If another child frequently speaks or behaves unkindly, then please encourage your child to tell you or an adult at the school.

We have adults on duty in the playground and they will respond to any concerns. Also, talk to your child about the impact of words, and explain that unkind words can be as upsetting as being hurt physically.

Joanna is upset because she tried to join in with her friends' game and they told her to go away. Joanna knows she needs to tell an adult on the playground who will help her find other friends she can play with.



Working together at Fairburn View Primary School

We all work together to make Fairburn View Primary School a happy place for everyone. Our pupils make friends with new children, or those who are struggling to make friends by themselves.

If your child is feeling sad or they have no friends, they can speak to an adult who will help them find friends to play with. There is also a Friendship bench in the Foundation play area where Foundation children can sit down to show they want some friends.

Abbie saw Joanna sitting on the Friendship bench so she went to talk to her and invite her to join in a game with other friends.



Learning to play nicely with others

It is important for children to enjoy playing with each other. We know that when children get stressed or overexcited they may not realise they are acting or playing roughly. Help your child to learn about gentle play by reinforcing this at home. Some useful phrases are: "Use kind hands, feet and words". Children can learn by being accountable for their behaviour. You can teach your child to make amends if they have hurt or upset another child by saying "sorry" or playing their favourite game.

Abbie knew Joanna had been unhappy so she asked her to come and play with the water funnels. Soon they were both laughing and having fun. Joanna is so glad that she has found a friend who looks out for her and takes care of her when she is unhappy.



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