

Building Friendships at Temple Hill



We want our pupils to feel safe and happy at Temple Hill. We have looked at bullying behaviour with our pupils, and talked about how we can deal with it. Our pupils have worked on the leaflet with us, so it covers the issues that are most important to them.

To help you and your child talk about bullying, we have developed this leaflet.

Read it through with your child and encourage them to talk to you about their experiences.

Someone is calling me names and being unkind



Sometimes children use unkind language to each other. Our pupils say that this is one of the things which they find most upsetting. To start off with, it may just be annoying. However, it can descend quickly into bullying. If your child experiences unkind words, encourage them to tell you, or another adult, as soon as possible so we can intervene. Our pupils understand the impact of unkind words, so they will let an adult know if they see it happening to another child.

Tobias, Harry and Alisha feel happy because they know that everyone at Temple Hill knows the right way to behave.

I have been left out of a game

Another issue that our pupils mention is being left out of a game or finding it hard to join in. This happens to everyone from time to time, and may be because of something as simple as there being too many children for a particular game. But if your child is finding this difficult because someone is being unkind to them, encourage them to let an adult know as this could be bullying behaviour. Encourage them to develop a wider friendship group so they always have someone else to play with.

Alisha usually plays with Katie, but today Katie is playing with George. She asks Lucy if she would like to play with the hoops. She has fun playing with Lucy and makes a new friend.



My friend is playing with someone else



Sometimes close friends may want to do activities with other children, which may mean that your child cannot play with their friend. This is a normal part of friendship and may not mean your child is being bullied. If your child feels a bit left out and is finding it hard to make more friends, we always have adult-led activities at playtimes so there is always someone to play with.

Tobias and Jamal usually paint together, but today Jamal wants to play with Lego. Tobias asks Emma if she would like to do some painting. Tobias has lots of fun painting with a new friend.

Someone is being unkind to me on social networks

Unkind words or actions on social media have just as much impact on a child as bullying them in real life. Bullying on social media can involve making children do things they don't want to do, leaving them out of virtual groups or encouraging others to join in with the unkind behaviour. Encourage your child to let you know if this is happening. You should also monitor your child's activities by looking at their history, texts and emails.

Alisha is upset because someone from school has said something unkind to her on a social network. She tells her mum, who helps her block the person and says she will let the school know so they can help.





What can I do if I am being bullied?

If your child feels that they are being bullied, encourage them to tell an adult straightaway. We take this seriously, and we will make sure that it is resolved. Assure your child that it is OK to tell, and it is best to tell. Our pupils also look out for each other. We have a buddy system so that older children look after their younger friends. Our playground friends are always there if their fellow pupils need someone to talk to. Children are encouraged to help other children who appear to be sad or lonely.

Harry is feeling sad as someone has been unkind to him several times. He tells his teacher and she assures him that she will sort it out and not to worry. She makes sure that teachers and buddies are looking out for him.



What do we do at Temple Hill to help?

We promise that there will always be someone there if your child asks for help. We will keep an eye out for any unkind behaviour, so we can intervene as soon as possible. To help children who may be feeling a bit sad, or struggling to find someone to play with, we always have adult-led playground activities. This helps bring the children together and also helps them make wider friendships.

Alisha doesn't have anyone to play with today, but she doesn't mind as a teacher has a brilliant activity arranged for playtime. She enjoys cuddling the rabbit and getting to know some new friends.



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