

United Against Bullying School Case Study: Involving school governors in anti-bullying work

How Burton Borough School involved school governors in their antibullying work

Context of our anti-bullying work

Burton Borough School is a large comprehensive of 1200 students in a town with 2 single-sex, selective grammar schools.

An Ofsted inspection in 2021 stated that "Leaders and governors were unaware of the perceptions of pupils and parents around some key issues, including bullying".

What we hoped to achieve

- To ensure that all governors were aware of the perceptions of pupils and parents around bullying
- To ensure that all governors were aware of the actions taken to address and reduce incidents of bullying

The action we took

1. Emailed governing body to request a link governor.
2. Once link governor identified, established monthly meetings to ensure they are fully informed of all actions.
3. Link governor included in development of anti-bullying policy.
4. Included link governor on Bullying Prevention Work Group alongside parents, teachers, students and support staff. Open invite to all governors so Chair of governors also regularly attends.
5. Share bullying data (e.g. findings from UAB survey) with link governor.
6. Present anti-bullying policy and actions regularly at governing body meetings, such as management committee on 13th June.

Impact and outcomes of the work

- Governors fully aware of actions being taken by the school to address and prevent incidents of bullying
- Governors fully aware of student perceptions of bullying
- Governors fully aware of parent perceptions of bullying
- Governors involved in development of anti-bullying policy
- Governors more fully informed to support community discussions or questions around bullying within the school.

What we have learned

This has been an important and impactful strategy. Governors are immersed in the local community and once fully informed, can help represent the views and actions of the school within the community, helping to address any incorrect perceptions that may exist.