

United Against Bullying School Case Study: creating a monthly anti-bullying magazine that is shared with the whole-school community

How The St Lawrence Academy shared resources, ideas and tips with the whole-school community

Context of our anti-bullying work

When I was appointed the Anti-Bullying coordinator in the academy there were a number of areas that I felt needed addressing and improving. I was keen to ensure that anti-bullying was not just something we raised awareness to through an Odd Socks event and a week of assemblies, so it was important to me that I raised the profile of our anti-bullying approach and how we must strive to keep everyone safe, secure and happy. So I felt that I could use my strong IT and media skills to create a monthly anti-bullying publication, **Let's beat BULLYING**, that could help to address some of the issues of bullying that young people may face on a daily basis.

What we hoped to achieve

I wanted to find a suitable way of sharing resources, ideas and tips from various organisations that could then help ensure that our young people were fully equipped with how to handle topics such as online safety, cyberbullying or differences between 'bullying and banter' for example. I did not want this to just be shared with students and therefore it has been shared with staff, parents and governors on a monthly basis too. I felt that we all have a duty to keep informed around anti-bullying practice and approaches and that this pack could be a really useful way of utilising the vast amounts of information shared with me by anti-bullying agencies and organisations.

The action we took

Since December we have shared the Let's beat Bullying pack with students, staff and parents. You can see examples of this here:

[Lets beat Bullying - April](#)

<https://sites.google.com/tsla.co.uk/house/anti-bullying>

We include activities for 'acts of kindness' too. We have students nominated by staff, other peers and also members of the local community. We then invite these students to our staff briefing where they receive a certificate and prize and are applauded by all staff. (You can also see examples of this on our anti-bullying website)

Impact and outcomes of the work

As a Church of England school we have a clear focus and vision on educating our young people to live well together and be a supportive community. I believe that the anti-bullying resources that have been shared through this pack have encouraged our whole academy community to be reflective, considerate and well informed. This has helped us to reduce the amount of bullying incidents across all year groups, reward and recognise examples of kindness and generosity, and equip young people with the tools needed to tackle any form of bullying. We have been able to share this through our reflection time, our website, our displays and screens around the academy and through emails to our parents, carers and governors too. I believe this has truly helped to raise the profile of anti-bullying practice and support beyond the usual methods that were previously used. This has also been evidenced in our parental engagement surveys, where parents have agreed that they are well informed. It has also allowed me to keep regular contact with parents and carers, enabling me to reinforce the contact and communication around anti-bullying every month. I am looking into ways that we can have more student contributions to the publication in future, with our new peer mentors and prefect body hopefully getting involved in this.

What we have learned

To overcome the fact that some students may not access the information, I have worked with our pastoral teams to ensure that this resource is also shared during reflection time and then discussed. I have noticed in a recent week of assemblies that students are certainly more informed and aware of what bullying is as a result of our information shared. It has also really helped to keep staff up to date with key information around anti-bullying, and created a wonderful team ethos towards nominating and celebrating kindness from our young people.