

## **Case study: Tom**



### **Tom has autism and has been bullied in the past.**

Tom is new to the school as his parents have just moved into the area for work. Tom is in Year 5 and finds it difficult to make friends. He often doesn't want to join in games with other children at break and lunchtime. He has some football stickers and a book that he puts them in. He does this every break time. However, one boy – Wayne, befriends him and seems to be happy to spend time with him discussing football cards and teams.

Tom's parents complain that recently Tom seems to be losing a number of his cards. This has not happened before. When investigated Wayne is getting Tom to give him cards by threatening him that he will take all his collection if he doesn't give him some.

The teacher makes Wayne give back the cards to Tom and sends Wayne to see the Headteacher. Wayne is no longer allowed to play with Tom. This upsets Tom.

### **Questions**

- Is what Wayne did bullying?
- What else could have been done?
- What should the school do now?
- Write a story about what happens to Tom now