

Safe to Learn - Anti Bullying Charter

Springwest Academy is committed to ensuring a safe learning environment. Bullying is an anti-social behaviour and affects everyone; it is unacceptable and will not be tolerated at Springwest Academy. If bullying does occur, all students and staff should know who to tell and that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. Bullying is taken seriously and includes:

- Emotional and Psychological abuse
Persistently: spreading hurtful and untruthful rumours, isolation, excluding from groups, tormenting, being unfriendly, dirty looks, talking/laughing about someone including behind their back, being forced to do things
- Verbal
Persistently: name calling, sarcasm, swearing, mocking, shouting, screaming, threatening language, cussing, insulting someone's parents or teasing
- Physical
Any use of violence or physical attack – actual or threatened
Persistently: pushing and shoving, hitting, kicking
- Cyber
Misuse of: internet technology, chat rooms /emailing, social networking sites, texting, offensive or degrading photo editing, broadcasting, filming, uploading and other related technologies
- Sexual Harassment
Any unwanted or inappropriate physical contact, sexually abusive or inappropriate comments
- Homophobic
Persistently: taunting, name calling, ridiculing sexual orientation, gestures focussing on the issue of sexuality

(These incidents have to be reported to the borough)
- Racial
Comments, incitement, threats, ridiculing, name calling, graffiti, gestures and violence

(These incidents have to be reported to the borough)
- Difference
Picking on someone because of their appearance, disability or home circumstances
- Extortion
Forcible taking of money, food or belongings
- Religious or cultural Intolerance
Constant questioning, verbal abuse, lack of respect and name calling.
- Disputes and disagreements originating from outside the school

What should you do if you are being bullied?

If you are being bullied we want to help you. Never think that by telling someone things will get worse. Telling is the hardest part. Once you have done this, things will start to get better.

You can go to someone who you trust - form tutor, Pastoral Mentor, ACO, any teacher/member of staff you have a good relationship with, student services, school counsellor, Peer Mentor, your parent/carer or any student who you trust to report the incident for you.

Please use any of the help lines or websites listed on your year group notice board opposite the pastoral mentor's office.

What should you do if you see someone else being bullied?

To ensure we have a safe learning environment we all have a responsibility to support each other, therefore it is important to tell someone if you are concerned about bullying.

By ignoring it, it won't go away.

“We all have a role to play in preventing and stopping bullying. It is everyone's problem: governors, teachers, support staff, parents/carers, students, those being bullied and the bullies. “