

THE ANTI-BULLYING ALLIANCE (ABA)

Woodlands is proud to be a core member of the Anti-Bullying Alliance.

The ABA defines bullying as . . .

‘The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power’.

The vision, values and objectives of the ABA are outlined below.

VISION

Together we can stop bullying and create safe environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn.

VALUES

- We believe that bullying in any form is wrong and should not be tolerated, and that any environment that encourages bullying, or shows indifference to prejudice and discrimination is unacceptable.
- We believe that bullying is a behaviour choice and that anyone can be encouraged to change their behaviour.
- We believe that all children and young people have intrinsic value and worth and we embrace their uniqueness and autonomy.
- We respect difference and welcome diversity in our children, young people and in society in general, and believe our work should be inclusive of all.
- We believe that children and young people should have the right to feel safe, secure and valued, and that creating a safe environment and dealing with bullying is everyone's responsibility.
- We believe children and young people should actively participate in decisions that affect them and should be supported in taking responsibility for their choices and subsequent actions.
- We support a range of positive strategies to deal with bullying and actively challenge the use of humiliation, fear, ridicule and other similar approaches in an effort to reduce bullying.
- We work within the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (Articles 14 and 28).
- We believe that people should be treated with respect and courtesy.

OBJECTIVES

- To **raise the profile of bullying** and the effect it has on the lives of children and young people
- To **create a climate in which everyone agrees that bullying is unacceptable**
- To make sure that teachers, youth practitioners, parents, carers, children and young people have the **skills and knowledge** to address bullying effectively.

The ABA seeks to achieve their objectives in three key ways:

- **Policy and advocacy work** - partnership building, policy development and media work
- **Building the evidence** base for effective practice- encouraging research and evaluation to identify what works; collecting and sharing effective practice; supporting new developments and innovations in line with the evidence.
- **Information sharing** – disseminating and sharing information through our membership and developing resources for schools and other organisations that work with children and young people.

For more information log on to www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk