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Innsworth Schools' Partnership
Executive Headteacher:
Mrs Lisa Jones B.A.Ed. (Hons), N.P.Q.H.

14th November 2016

National Anti-bullying week: 14th – 18th November 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

At the Innsworth Schools' Partnership we are committed to developing the social, emotional and behavioural skills of our children. Nationally at this time, many schools commit to looking at bullying and how to deal with this and we will be planning activities of our own. Our focus this year is 'Being a Good Friend'.

Our Innsworth Schools' Partnership Anti-bullying policy has a clear definition of bullying (in child friendly language) as follows.

Bullying is when someone, or a group of people, picks on you, hurts you, calls you names, threatens or says nasty things about you, takes your things and friends away **and keeps on doing it**, making you feel frightened and/or unhappy.

- **Physical** – e.g. hitting, kicking, biting, spitting, tripping someone up, stealing/damaging someone's belongings, etc.
- **Verbal** – e.g. name-calling, insulting a person's family, threats of physical violence, spreading rumours, constantly putting a person down (Racist, homophobic or discriminatory language is included in this).
- **Indirect** – e.g. spreading rumours, excluding someone from a group, humiliation, creating a feeling of danger.

Bullying is intentional, **persistent** over time and features an imbalance of power. Often the problems children experience in school, although hurtful, are a normal part of developing social skills. All three elements have to be present to be classed as bullying. However all ongoing behavioural and social issues will be taken seriously in line with both this policy and the schools' behaviour policies.

This week is taking place because we wish to develop a shared understanding of bullying and prevent bullying behaviours in the future. We want to enable our children to 'be a good friend' to others and demonstrate respect and understanding.

During the week, children's timetables may change slightly, and anti-bullying activities will run alongside the usual curriculum. The lessons will be varied and involve the children in many imaginative activities linked to the anti-bullying theme – designing posters, drama, role play and using stories. To finish the week the children will share their learning in our celebration assembly.

Your child may be bringing home some information and activities for you to share, talk about and enjoy at home. Thank you for your support in working in partnership with us in this important area.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Lisa Jones'.

Lisa Jones
Headteacher