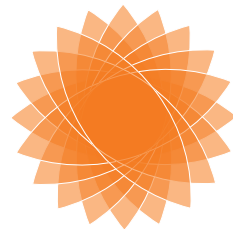


What is bullying



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100 flourishing communities
North Kesteven District Council

This document is available in large print, Braille, audio tape, electronic formats such as CD, or in a different language. For a copy please contact Communities at the Council using the following options:

Phone: 01529 414155 (main switchboard) or 01522 699699 (if calling from a Lincoln number)

Minicom: 01529 308088

Fax: 01529 413956

Web: www.n-kesteven.gov.uk

Email: <mailto:equality@n-kesteven.gov.uk>
(Use service email address not individual officers)

Communities
North Kesteven District Council
Kesteven Street
Sleaford
Lincolnshire
NG34 7EF

Bullying can take place at a variety of locations, including schools and clubs and these facilities already have policy and procedures in place for addressing complaints made to them.

North Kesteven District Council supports these organisations and you. We aim to provide support for people subjected to bullying in an area that is not covered by an existing policy or procedure; this could be in the street or on the way to school.

What is bullying:

Bullying is behaviour, usually repeated that intentionally hurts another individual or group, physically or emotionally.

The difference between bullying and joking around is that there is a deliberate intention to humiliate or hurt that person, there is a power imbalance that makes it hard for the victim to defend themselves, and it is usually an act of determination.

Bullying can take many forms, this includes:

- Physical – pushing and shoving, tripping up, kicking, spitting.
- Emotional – humiliating someone, name calling, using insulting names or comments.
- Prejudice – this may be homophobic, racism or victimising those who have special needs or disabilities.
- Indirect – spreading rumours whether true or not.
- Cyber bullying – any form of bullying using a mobile phone, through the internet chat rooms, social networking sites etc.

We are committed to the prevention of bullying, and recognise that bullying normally occurs over a period of time and that one off incidents also need to be considered.

How we help

- We will work in partnership with schools and other establishments to support the work they are doing, where bullying continues beyond their own environment.
- We deal with complaints of bullying through the Anti-Social Behaviour legislation, powers include:
 - 1) Unacceptable Behaviour Warning Letters
 - 2) Acceptable Behaviour Contracts
 - 3) Anti-Social Behaviour Orders
 - 4) Post Conviction Anti-Social Behaviour
 - 5) Individual Support Orders

Supporting complainants, parents and carers:

Young people, parents or carers who contact the Anti- Social Behavioural team will often be upset and angry. The team will explain the powers available to deal with bullying, and the involvement of other key agencies.

It is important for us to ensure that:

- Parents, carers and you as the victim are safe
- that the bullying stops, and the bully's behaviour changes
- we make clear that bullying is unacceptable; and
- you record all details of the bullying where possible

How you can report complaints of bullying.

North Kesteven District Council has two Anti-Social Behavioural Officers, whose aim is to provide a high quality of service to victims of bullying.

In dealing with these matters the Council will:

- Treat everyone fairly and without prejudice;
- Work in partnership with other agencies and seek joint solutions to bullying;
- Be open and democratic in our decision-making.
- Ensure that all staff has adequate training to effectively deal with complaints.
- and, always keep you or your representative fully informed of the steps that are being taken.

You can contact the Council via:

- Website www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/complaints
- Email: ASB@n-kesteven.gov.uk
- Telephone the relevant Council department on 01529-414155 or 01522-699699 (if calling from a Lincoln number).
- Visit the Council Offices or one of the Council's community access points.
- Or contact your local District Councillor.

All information provided to the anti-social behaviour team will be treated in confidence.

Contact Numbers and Web addresses for other available support services.

Childline

0800 11 11

www.childline.org.uk.

NSPCC

0808 800 5000

www.nspcc.org.uk

Young Minds

www.youngminds.org.uk.

Channel 4 Advice

www.channel4.com/health/children.

Anti-Bullying

www.antibullying.net

Youth 2 Youth

020 8896 3675

www.youth2youth.co.uk

Cruel at School

www.cruelatschool.co.uk

Bullying

www.bullying.co.uk

Get Connected

0808 808 4994

www.getconnected.org

If you would like to read the full Anti-Bullying Policy, please visit www.n-kesteven.gov.uk

