



National Anti-Bullying Week 2014

The biggest date in your Anti-Bullying Ambassador's diaries is fast approaching and we want to make sure that they are prepared!

National Anti-Bullying Week is taking place from Monday 17th November until the 21st



National Anti-Bullying Week takes place every year in November. The aim of the week is to get everyone across the country to take a stand against bullying. We want our Anti-Bullying Ambassador schools to make the most of this week and have fun whilst tackling bullying in their schools. The theme for this year's Anti-Bullying Week is:

'Lets Stop Bullying For All'

This year there is a particular focus on stopping bullying for young people with SEND.

Primary School pupils with SEN are twice as likely as pupils without SEN to suffer from persistent bullying - (Institute of Education 2014)

Students who reported having a disability are twice as likely to have been cyber bullied than those who reported they did not have a disability - (Anti-Bullying Alliance 2014)

63% of young people with autism have been bullied at school (Bancroft 2012)

Evidence shows that students with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are more likely to be bullied than their peers who don't have SEND.

Reasons why students with SEND are more likely to be bullied:

- Students with SEND can be seen as 'different' by their peers and because of this are often isolated by them.
- Staff and parents can feel the need to protect these students more eg, having a member of staff or an LSA with them through the day.
- Students can be made to feel different from their peers eg, by being taken out of class to learn or sitting in a separate area of the classroom with their LSA where it is harder for them to make friends.
- Not being able to be included in all activities/clubs in the school due to activities not being tailored to their needs.
- People using disabilist language against them or in a negative way.

(Anti-Bullying Alliance 2014)



We want YOU to work with your Anti-Bullying Ambassadors to make sure that everyone is included and diversity is celebrated in your school! Here are some ideas of ways you could do this...



1) Understanding the nature of bullying in your school and whether it is prevalent for students with SEND is the first step to being able to tackle the bullying. The best way to do this is to send a survey out to all students in the school to help understand the nature of bullying at your school and to talk to a variety of students about their experiences of school. Ask them questions relating to the school building, break times, school trips, teaching staff, lessons etc

2) Run an activity around the type of language that is and is not acceptable in your school including looking at disabilist language. You could use drama or music to help with this.

3) If someone has disclosed bullying to you or an Anti-Bullying Ambassador, think about how can you set up a subtle way of checking they are ok. It could be as simple as giving them a thumbs up in the corridor. If they respond with a thumbs up you know they are ok, but if they give a thumbs down you know that you need to keep an eye on them or offer to have a chat with them.

4) Look at people who have an SEND who are seen as role models or invite an inspirational speaker in to talk to the students.

5) Work with your students to ensure SEND bullying is included in your Anti-Bullying Policy.

6) Set up or re-evaluate your bullying report system in your school to ensure it is inclusive and accessible to everyone.



7) Get the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors to collect songs from students to make a happy playlist to play in assembly or at break times.



8) Use the week to establish a room/base for the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors. They could set up a lunch or break time club to give people who are feeling lonely a place to go and make friends or talk to someone.

9) Hold a diversity evening to celebrate the different talents students in your school have.

10) Run a screensaver competition of who can design the best poster and slogan which celebrates diversity.

11) Create a diversity film. Film students holding up a difference about them which they are proud of.

12) Ask each student to bring in their favourite photo of themselves. Stick each student's photo on a piece of paper and ask other students to write something they like about that student around their photo.

Don't forget to tell us what you get up to: Eleanor.cooper@diana-award.org.uk