



17 November 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

This week marks Anti-Bullying Awareness week across the UK. The theme for this week is “One Kind Word”. We have been raising awareness of the impact that bullying can have on young people through Tutor time and assembly. The message pupils have been given today is “in a world where we can be anything, be kind”.

We are seeing, first hand, the impact Covid has had/is having on our young people. Some young people are struggling to socialise and interact with others, some young people are feeling isolated, others not knowing why they feel the way they do. We are working with many families to support their child as we move forward, and through, Covid. How your child interacts with others plays an important role.

We are aware that social media is being used as a platform to bully, ridicule and spread hate. We encourage all families to check their child’s social media accounts. There will be very few children who pay their own contract; they need to be reminded that the phone only belongs to them if they pay the bill. Checking your child’s phone should occur on a regular basis to ensure they are not being targeted on social media, or that they are not misusing their phone.

During Lockdown, a small group of pupils helped to update our Anti-Bullying Policy. Thanks to the small number of parents who have also provided feedback. An overview of the policy (and full version) is available on the website (link also below).

In order to respond to bullying allegations, we need to know that it is happening. We also need time to take the right action; to support the young person experiencing bullying and those who are displaying bullying type behaviours. We work closely with PC Irons (our Youth Engagement Officer) who supports young people in understanding the consequences of mobile phone misuse. By working together we want to ensure all young people who attend Lockerbie Academy feel safe, happy and included.

#OneKindWord #kindnessfuelskindness #inaworldwherewecanbeanythingbekind

[Anti-Bullying Policy Overview](#)

Yours faithfully,

Kerry Galbraith Currie