

**Humphrey Perkins School** Cotes Road, Barrow Upon Soar, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE12 8JU

> 01509 412385 office@humphreyperkins.org.uk www.humphreyperkins.org.uk

Deputy CEO Jennifer Piper-Gale MA MSc **Éxecutive Principal** Laura Sanchez Associate Principal Della Bartram

16th April 2024

Dear Parents / Carers.

We hope you are well and managed to have some 'down-time' over the Easter break.

As you know, Humphrey Perkins posted surveys to all our stakeholders in January as part of the Lionheart Trust's evaluation of school experience so far, this academic year.

Upon analysis of the survey results, we noted that a small percentage of our pupils reported they experienced 'bullying' at our school.

We have obviously taken this seriously and aim to explore further.

Please be reassured, research shows that 'bullying' is often conceptualised differently by different children, for example younger children do not tend to distinguish between bullying behaviour and fighting when compared to older children (Smith, Cowie, Olafsson & Liefooghe, 2002).

The Anti-Bullying Alliance and its members have agreed a shared definition of bullying based on research from across the world over the past 30 years.

"Bullying is the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. Bullying can be physical, verbal or psychological. It can happen face to face or on-line"

You can find out more by accessing the Anti-Bullying alliance website:

Anti-Bullying Alliance: What Is Bullying?

## **Agreed Next Steps at Humphrey Perkins:**

From the week commencing Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, there will be an 'Anti-Bullying' assembly delivered to all year groups throughout the week.

Following the assemblies, we intend to administer an anonymous Anti-Bullying Survey to further gauge our pupils' experiences of 'bullying' at Humphrey Perkins so to refine how we manage the issue.

The survey has been adapted from a questionnaire designed by the Anti-Bullying Alliance in conjunction with the Anna Freud Centre. It was also reviewed and updated in 2021 by Goldsmiths University.













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Our pupils will be fully briefed prior to taking the survey and explicit reassurance will be given that all their responses will remain anonymous.

## What are the benefits of taking part?

- **For our pupils** This is an opportunity for our pupils to reflect upon the nature of 'bullying', share their thoughts and influence the direction of Humphrey Perkin's anti-bullying strategy.
- For Humphrey Perkins School A raised awareness of how our pupils currently feel, (we will ask them to report how they have felt in the past few weeks). It will also provide invaluable information to support our anti-bullying agenda.

Collaborative work has already begun with Sue Bosley, the Anti-Bullying Strategy Manger at Leicestershire County Council. The results of this survey will add genuine context to our work so students feel 'listened to'. We aim to achieve the Gold Beyond Bullying Award by working together, in ensuring that incidents of bullying are minimised and swiftly dealt with.

We whole heartedly hope you are on board with this transparent re-launch of our expected Anti-Bullying ethos here at Humphrey Perkins.

As always, we welcome working closely with our parents and the community at large. If you would like to be more involved please do not hesitate to contact us about joining our Parent Ambassador Group (PAG) by emailing office@humphreyperkins.org.uk

With my warmest regards,

Jourg.

Ms. Emma Booth

Vice Principal









