

Lincoln Christ's Hospital School

A Specialist Language College and Academy
Educating in Lincoln since 1090



11th February 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

As you may know, the eradication of bullying of any type remains a top priority for our school. The wellbeing and safety of all of our students is of paramount importance and we continue to evolve and improve as time goes on.

During this academic year we have had a number of developments regarding our anti-bullying campaign:

- The 'Speak out against Bullying' campaign.
- Assembly and tutor time activities.
- Our SMSC programme promoting tolerance and respect.
- Student Voice big question of the half term 'Can we ever get rid of bullying?'
- E-Safety and cyber bullying workshops.
- The Amy Winehouse Resilience Programme.
- Sixth Form mentoring.
- Bullying drop-ins.

Such developments all serve to highlight our zero tolerance approach to bullying as an educational organisation.

I am also pleased to announce that we have had an external review of our pastoral, welfare and safeguarding systems and procedures. The review commented on our excellent provision, support and action when bullying is disclosed.

In our student voice sessions this term, students commented that they are happy with the

- support at break and lunchtime.
- access to support and who they would turn to if there is a problem.
- support from our Sixth Form community.
- availability of common Rooms.
- how the school responds when something is reported.

"We like that we are taken seriously and the school does not tolerate bullying."

Please find attached the preview of an article which will be going in the next addition of the LCHS Leader.

I have absolutely no doubt that together we can get a very strong message out to our whole school community that we will never tolerate any type of bullying and that every student will be encouraged to reach for their personal excellence.

Yours sincerely

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Headteacher

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Student Voice at LCHS

Before Christmas, Student Voice meetings were held to discuss the 'Big Question' of the term. The question was 'Can we ever get rid of bullying?'

Miss Rose and Mr Scully met with representatives from every tutor group within each year group. The first year group to meet was Year 7 and the week concluded with a meeting of Sixth Forms students. Pupils came to the committee room during morning registration to share and further discuss the 'Big Question.' Many pupils came prepared with notes highlighting key points raised by other members of their tutor group.

Pupils were asked, 'What do we do at the moment, as a school, that works well in terms of dealing with bullying?'

Responses included:

- Teachers are everywhere at lunch and break.
- Head of Year and Pastoral Managers are always available for students to talk to.
- Sixth Form mentors are easy to talk to.
- There is really good support in place if you're being bullied.
- Teachers talk to you and reassure you.
- High Visibility jackets help because at break and lunchtimes they make teachers much more visible.
- Common room, supervised by staff, are a good place to go for a chat with friends.

Pupils were also asked, 'What else could we do to support people who are bullied?'

Pupils made suggestions which included:

- More mentors would be really useful as Sixth Form mentors could have direct experience of what younger students are going through.
- Everyone in school should know what 'bullying' actually means and what the consequences are.

We are currently having discussions with the Sixth Form team to see what extra help can be offered to younger students across the school and talks and discussions are already planned for assemblies and tutor time.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all pupils involved in the Student Voice discussions. Your thought and opinions are very valuable and help us to continue to improve as a school.

Miss Rose and Mr Scully



http://www.christs-hospital.lincs.sch.uk/joomla35/images//PDFS/School Policies/Statutory/LCHS_Anti-Bullying_Policy.pdf