



WEEK 4

Fir Ends School, Smithfield, Carlisle, Cumbria CA6 6AY
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29 Sept 2022

Be the best you can be...

We've reached the end of week 4 *already*! It's also the start of autumn weather, and there are a number of messages about flu, covid and scarlet fever to pass on from the local Public Health Team – these have been published via the Jotter App.

We also have an update on our approach to bullying, reflecting our behaviour policy development and the latest DfE guidance on child-on-child abuse.



POLITE NOTICE

Recently, residents and parents have raised concerns about impatient/speeding drivers during morning drop-off times. Some of these are commuter vehicles, and we have contacted the community policing team for support.

Unfortunately, some of the reported vehicles can be identified as parents arriving and departing, and we ask you directly to **take care**.

Please remember that children (and adults) are squishy and don't go back into the right shape easily!

DWP FAMILY SUPPORT

A flyer has been published in the Jotter app detailing the Supporting Families offer from the DWP.

We can refer families for support; e.g to ensure they are accessing all available benefits. If you think a referral would be appropriate, contact Miss Sloane or Mr Spencer, in confidence.

SCHOOL TO HOME COMMUNICATION

1. [School Jotter app](#) – News, calendar and other updates. See the website [newsletter page](#) for download details.
2. [Scholarpack Parent app](#) – instant messaging, attendance and contact details. If you have lost access to the app please contact the office.

BEHAVIOUR POLICY - BULLYING

Our Code of Conduct

Respect others

Be **ready** for learning

Listen carefully

Be **safe** and **sensible**

Take care of our school and property

Always be our best

Safeguarding requirements for schools cover many forms of [child-on-child abuse](#). As part of our behaviour policy update we have reviewed our definition and response to reports of **bullying** at Fir Ends.

Bullying is defined as, 'harm caused by a person or group to another person or group that is **repetitive**, **deliberate** and involves a relationship where there is any **imbalance of power**.' Bullying harms may be verbal, emotional, social, physical or cyber/online.

To simplify the definition for pupils we are using the acronym **STOP – Several Times, On Purpose**.

We will encourage and remind pupils to let an adult know if anyone is behaving in a way that upsets them, and particularly if it meets this definition.

When pupils report such behaviour staff will respond as follows:

- The class teacher will **investigate** by speaking to all involved, starting with the reported victim(s). The victim(s) will also be consulted when determining the resolution. Appropriate support will be offered.
- If the investigation shows there **is** evidence that bullying is taking place, those involved will be sanctioned as appropriate and parents will be informed. This will be recorded as a safeguarding incident – **child-on-child abuse**.
- If the investigation shows there has been inappropriate behaviour towards others rather than bullying, sanctions will still be given but the incident will be recorded as **misbehaviour**. Parents will be informed if there are ongoing/other concerns.
- If a specific safeguarding issue is presented, the DSL will be involved. In serious cases, police or social services may also be contacted.

We will be actively taking part in anti-bullying week in November. Further information on bullying can be found at <https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/>

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