

BULLYING

Bullying is any act carried out by a group or individual, repeatedly over time against a target who cannot defend themselves, that intentionally causes harm, either physically or emotionally.

Bullying behaviour may be direct or indirect. Direct forms include physical violence and threats; verbal assaults and taunts; the destruction of property; extortion; unwanted sexual interest or contact. Examples of indirect forms of bullying include ignoring and the withdrawal of friendship; excluding; malicious gossip and spreading rumour; abusive or oppressive graffiti (this includes cyber-bullying). Hamilton School takes all forms of bullying seriously and is particularly concerned to take action in relation to any incidents which involve race, culture, country of origin, sexism, disability, giftedness or homophobia. In such cases these issues will be specifically addressed with the bully (and his/her parents where appropriate) in the course of post incident management.

We adopt a zero tolerance approach to bullying and will react quickly to any reports we receive.

Students are encouraged to report their concerns to a teacher.



For full details please see our Anti Bullying Policy, which can be found [here](#).

Staff training and information is disseminated through our Child Protection Training and in updates.

Students learn about bullying through our PSMSC programme, assemblies and visiting speakers and in curriculum time.

They learn about what to do if they have a concern about themselves or others.

Parents can find help and advice by following these links:

	Advice for the targets of bullying and their families
	Advice for the targets of bullying and their families