Eye to Eye Counselling Service

"Sometimes we all need someone to talk to"

Bullying: Parents and Carers

What are the signs that my child is being bullied?

Signs may include:

- •seeming low or anxious
- having less confidence
- feeling upset or panicky
- avoiding school or refusing to go completely
- outbursts of unexplained anger at home
- •seem withdrawn, isolated, and wary of others
- having few friendships
- •unexplained physical injuries such as bruises or scratches
- •using things like self-harm or drugs/alcohol to cope with difficult feelings

Bullying can be a one-off or it can go on for a long time. Either way, it can cause young people a lot of stress and anxiety.

How can I help?

- Talk to them/ask them about what's been going on- they may be too embarrassed to
 initiate the conversation
- Reassure them that you will support them in the way that they choose and at their
 pace- they may not be ready to talk to teachers/senior figures yet!
- Stay calm and **really listen** to what they have to say without interrupting them- avoid the temptation to get angry and take the matter into your own hands
- Check in with them **regularly** to see how they are doing
- Keep a log of the bullying i.e. screenshots, photos, diary logs with dates etc
- If the young person is in school and agrees, arrange a meeting with the HOY/ headteacher as soon as possible
- If outside of school, plan together for how to manage it if your child encounters the bullies, such as calling you, another trusted adult, getting to a safe space, or calling the police
- If online, encourage them to **block** the bullies, including any fake accounts they
 make
- Remind the young person of their positive attributes to **build up their self esteem**
- Encourage the young person to **practice lots of self-care** and to relax at home





Useful Contacts

Eye to Eye Counselling Service: 01443 202940 Email: info@eyetoeye.wales

ChildLine 0800 1111 Www.childline.org

(online chat available)

The Mix 0808 808 4994 Www.themix.org.uk (online chat available)

Kooth

Www.kooth.com (online chat)

Helpful Resources

Young Minds: Bullying, a guide for parents

Bitesize: How to help your child reach out about bullying

NSPCC: Bulling and cyberbullying, advice for parents and carers

Bitesize: School anxiety and refusal



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