Teacher's notes
Unit 18 Where do you stand?

Before you start

Recap previous session: Underneath, everyone wants a friend.

Duration guide

1 twenty-minute session

You will need

- to clear a large space in the classroom.

The purpose of this session is to think about aspects of bullying.

Clear a space in the classroom. Tell students to imagine a line running down the middle of the space – one end represents 'strongly agree', and the other represents 'strongly disagree'.

If possible, only reveal one statement at a time, or you may choose simply to read them out.

Go through the statements one by one – in each case students stand at a point on the line that represents their views. Then they stand at a point that represents how they actually behave.

Encourage students to be consistent about what they think and how they actually behave – it's all too easy to have a moral stance and not carry it through in our actions.

Allow students to challenge each other's positions. It might be a loud session, but it should be fun and productive.

At the end of the session, remind students about the lesson of the previous two units 'Everyone wants a friend'. Is it possible that even someone who is bullying wants a friend too?

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Student activity

Unit 18 Where do you stand?

The purpose of this session is to think about where you stand on aspects of bullying. Be honest about what you think and about what you actually do.

Action

Imagine a line, where one end represents 'strongly agree' and the other end represents 'strongly disagree'.

Taking each of the following statements in turn, stand at a point on the line that best represents your views. Then stand at a point on the line that best represents how you behave. Be prepared to explain your position!

- If I see someone being bullied, I go and help them.
- If my friend bullies someone, I join in because I don't want my friend to dislike me.
- Everyone deserves to be treated equally well.
- If I tell a teacher about a bullying incident, nothing will be done.
- If I am being bullied, there is someone who can help me.
- Anyone who is different deserves to be bullied.
- I would never bully anyone.
- I am sick of everyone talking about bullying all the time; if they stopped talking about it maybe it would go away.
- Bullies are trying to prove they are more important than they feel inside – if they felt OK they wouldn't need to bully anyone.
- I can choose not to be a victim of bullying. I have a right to feel safe.

Food for thought

We've explored our attitudes to bullying. In the previous two sessions we realised that everyone wants a friend. Is it possible that even someone who is bullying wants that too?

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