

Thursday 5 October 2023



Dear parents/carers

I would like to let you know how proud we are of all your children. They have managed very well with the transition to full days in school. They know their daily routine and are developing a good understanding of our expectations in school.

We thank you for your ongoing support and communication with school. If anyone is not currently receiving updates via the EvidenceMe system, please let us know so we can resolve this. This is a useful tool to keep you up to date with what the children have been learning during their week in school.

Our children are all unique and we wouldn't have it any other way! This means some children develop at different rates and can find some areas challenging. For some children, starting phonics and learning letter names and sounds is tricky whilst for others knowing how to manage their emotions can be a challenge. We support all our children to help them with their own individual needs.

To support children in managing their feelings and developing good relationships, we use a conflict resolution approach with clear steps to help children to resolve any problems (see steps below).

### **Confliction Resolution Steps**

#### **1. Approach calmly, stopping any hurtful actions**

- Place yourself between the children, on their level.
- Use a calm voice and/or gentle touch
- Remain neutral rather than take sides

#### **2. Acknowledge children's feeling.**

- "You look really upset." If they can't say how they feel, "Are you feeling ...?" or "I can see you are feeling..." (We do not make any judgement about blame.)
- Let the children know you need to hold any toy if that has caused the problem.

#### **3. Gather information**

- "What's the problem?" Always avoid using 'why?' questions. Children very rarely know why they have done something particularly when they are upset or emotional.

#### **4. Restate the problem in the children's words.**

- "So the problem is..."

#### **5. Ask the children for solution and choose one together.**

- "What can we do to solve this problem?"
- Encourage children to think of a solution.

#### **6. Be prepared to give follow-up support.**

- "You solved the problem!"
- Stay near the children.

This approach is modelled and supported by adults. We encourage the children to speak to adults and let them know if there is a problem. Sometimes children don't let us know and we need to remind them of the importance of this. If your child mentions something at home, please email your child's teacher to let them know and arrange a meeting, if needed. The morning drop off is a great time to pass on a quick message; it can be tricky to have longer discussions at these times. We respectfully ask you to let school know about any concerns which happen in school time rather than contacting other parents directly. Class teacher emails are as follows:

[abbiemartin@lobleyhillprimary.org.uk](mailto:abbiemartin@lobleyhillprimary.org.uk)

[kelseywink@lobleyhillprimary.org.uk](mailto:kelseywink@lobleyhillprimary.org.uk)

On some occasions, children need to have thinking time with a sand timer but this is always followed with a reflective conversation. In some instances, the children have thinking time with a member of the leadership team and a reflective conversation with them. If you have any questions about this, please just let us know.

Finally, a little reminder about some dates for reception parents:

- Co-operation afternoon – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October @ 1.30pm
- Reception Phonics Workshops – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October @ 9.15pm or 2.30pm

We hope to see you there.

Best wishes

*Lorna Wood-Williams*

Lorna Wood-Williams  
Deputy Headteacher (Early Years/KS1)