

ABA-AFA-13-022

Dealing with Jokes and Banter (disablist, sexist, sexualised, gender (LGBT), "keener" ("swot"), race and colour, body)

When does "banter" become bullying? When does low-level verbal relational conflict become bullying? These are difficult questions, and the conclusions may be different for different communities, and even different groups within a school. However, repetitive harmful and targeted banter can be attritional, leading to social withdrawal and isolation, and therefore increase the risk of further victimisation.

Some schools successfully engage the entire school community, empowering pupils to create a list of words and labels that are unacceptable, and then adopting a zero tolerance approach to the use of those terms in school.

LINK TO RESOURCES

[Dealing with name calling - group activity](#)

[Dealing with name calling - individual support](#)

[Anti-Bullying Alliance: Language - Banter and Bullying](#)



ANTICIPATE		
ANTICIPATE- raise awareness and level of social skills		
QUICK WIN or MEDIUM / LONG TERM?	QW- quick win QW	SOCIAL CONTEXT VBC- relating to CYP who show bullying behaviours, who are being bullied and the wider community
PHASE	ALL ALL	VBC
WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE SAY	Look beyond an incident, enable young people to understand each other and work to develop a friendship or mutually agreed solutions; negative impact of use of disablist language Help young people with SEND to understand some of their own behaviours could be interpreted	
WHAT PARENTS SAY	Have a positive school-wide ethos towards all forms of disability running awareness sessions on different types of disabilities and the behaviours associated with them, and encouraging a better understanding of how and why different people behave in different ways; bringing in experts, role models, getting students to study famous people with disabilities.	
WHAT RESEARCHERS SAY	Active peer support/interventions in social context/empathy and understanding only work within a whole school culture of tolerance and fairness	
COST RESOURCE	Although a relatively quick win, this cannot be dealt with through a one-off whole school assembly. This will only work in a whole school, inclusive, "telling" context".	
RELATED STRATEGIES		



For more information on the programme, visit the [Anti-Bullying Alliance](#) information hub. These resources are hosted and developed by [Achievement for All](#)

