

'Prejudice' is making judgements about someone without really knowing them

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'Bullying' is hurting someone physically or emotionally, several times on purpose

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'Prejudice-driven bullying' is bullying someone because of prejudice about them

There are different things that people have prejudices about, and that means there are different types of prejudice-driven bullying. The three main kinds are:

- **Racist bullying** – bullying someone because of their ethnic background, nationality, religion or skin colour
- **Sexist and homophobic bullying** – bullying someone because of their gender or sexual orientation
- **Bullying because of disability** – bullying someone because they are disabled or have special educational needs



The three main types of prejudice-driven bullying are against the law – they are called 'hate crime' – so even if the bullying is between children or young people the police might get involved.

Other things that people may be prejudiced about are people's size (e.g. if they are overweight), people's family background e.g. children who live with foster families or people who come from a particular social class (e.g. very rich or very poor).

All prejudice driven bullying, whatever it is about, can include:

- making fun of someone's physical appearance
- refusing to work or play with someone, or to sit next to them
- insulting someone's family
- verbal abuse
- physical threats or attacks
- writing graffiti about someone
- getting others to behave in a prejudiced way against someone

Racist bullying can also include:

- pretending not to understand/using gibberish
- making fun of the way a person walks or talks
- making fun of a person's clothes, religious observance, dietary habits
- making fun of a person's country of origin.

Sexist and homophobic bullying can also include:

- making fun of subject and career choice
- making fun of how someone walks or talks
- pretending to fancy someone, 'setting them up'
- sending round texts saying someone is 'gay'
- inappropriate and uninvited touching
- sexual assault

Bullying because of disability can also include:

- mimicking someone's speech or movements
- making fun of a specific difficulty or disability
- making fun of someone's work

Some important things to remember

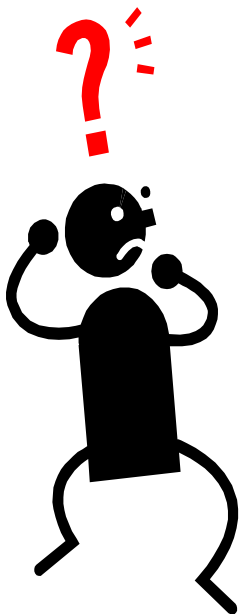
- Prejudice-driven bullying relates to what people think about someone, which may or may not be true. For example someone may experience homophobic bullying even though they are not gay or lesbian
- Bullying between people of different ethnic groups is not necessarily racist – only if racial prejudice is the reason for it.
- Prejudice-driven bullying is very serious – children and young people who bully because of prejudice may go on to commit even more serious ‘hate-crimes’.

The Government has produced some guidance about racist and homophobic bullying – you can download them from our website www.warwickshire.gov.uk/bullying

If you know someone is involved in prejudice-driven bullying you must tell someone.

Children, young people and families do not have to put up with prejudice-driven bullying

Bullying of any kind is not acceptable and bullying that is prejudice driven can be particularly horrible. If it is happening to you:



Remind yourself that it isn't your fault. No one deserves to be bullied.

Tell an adult you trust like a teacher, member of your family or youth worker. If it is happening in school it is important that the school knows about it.

If there is no one near that you can tell,

- Text 'bully' and your message to 07786 200999
- Email bullying@warwickshire.gov.uk
- Ring CHILDLINE on 0800 1111
- Go to www.warwickshire.gov.uk/bullying

Try and keep a record of everything that happens – download a 'bullying diary' from www.warwickshire.gov.uk/bullying. Save copies of any texts or emails that you get, they can also provide good evidence of what has happened.

If it is racist bullying in school, contact Warwickshire's Education Race Equality Officer on **01926 742358** or go to www.warwickshire.gov.uk/raceequality

If it is racist, sexist or disablist bullying, happening outside of school, tell the police – they take hate crime very seriously. For more information go to www.warwickshire.police.uk or ring 0845 129 2221 to report it

**If you know someone is a target of prejudice-driven bullying,
report it.**

If you don't, you are making it worse