

Session 14: How can we support children develop and maintain friendships?

Activity: Billy's story: Friendship

Family activity at home:

1. Explain the purpose of the home activity to your children including why it is important to:
 - understand the importance of friendships
 - the values they want their friends to have
 - identify what we mean by positive friendships
2. Read **Billy's story: Friendship** provided then review the **What do you think?** questions below with your children.

What do you think? questions

- Is it ok for Billy to be friends with Jen?
 - Should Billy's friends stop teasing him?
 - Is Jen a bad influence on Billy?
 - What do you think makes a person have a bad influence on you?
 - Which people have a good or a bad influence on you?
 - Should Billy make more of an effort to see his friends after school?
 - Should we be able to have both male and female friends?
 - What affect would bullying have on your social and emotional well-being?
3. Ask them to discuss what could be done to resolve Billy's unhappy situation.

Session 14: How can we support children develop and maintain friendships?

Activity: Billy's story: Friendship

Billy's story: Friendship

Billy is in P5 and lives with his grandmother quite a distance from the school. He had a new next-door neighbour called Jen. When they first met, they realised quickly that they had lots in common. They both attended a Karate class and enjoyed some of the same computer games, music and going to the cinema. Billy only saw Jen after school because she went to an all girls' school. They often arranged to spend time together after school doing the things they both liked. Billy told his friends at school about Jen and they started teasing him about having a friend who is a girl. They were calling him a 'girl' and saying nasty things about Jen even though they had never met her. Billy didn't know how to deal with this and had thought about ending his friendship with Jen and just staying in at night after school.

Questions	Explain your answer
Is it ok for Billy to be friends with Jen? Yes ☐ No ☐	
Should Billy's friends stop teasing him? Yes ☐ No ☐	
Is Jen a bad influence on Billy? Yes ☐ No ☐	
What do you think makes a person have a bad influence on you?	
Which people have a good or a bad influence on you?	
Should Billy make more of an effort to see his friends after school? Yes ☐ No ☐	
Should we be able to have both male and female friends? Yes ☐ No ☐	
What affect would bullying have on your social and emotional well-being?	