

# SNITCHING VS. REPORTING

## FILL IN THE BLANKS WITH CORRECT WORD

An \_\_\_\_\_ is someone who recognises when something is wrong and acts to make it \_\_\_\_\_. One of the most important ways to do this is by \_\_\_\_\_ bullying behaviour.

Missing words: **Reporting, Upstander, Right**

## SNITCHING VS REPORTING

Some young people might worry that they are going to be called a 'snitch' or a 'snake' if they tell a teacher about bullying behaviour.

Remember, the definition of bullying behaviour is: **Repeated, negative behaviour that is intended to make others feel upset, uncomfortable or unsafe**

Can you think of any other words for a 'snitch'?

e.g. a grass, tattletale, rat, blabbermouth

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Name calling, such as calling someone a 'snitch', is not respectful behaviour. It might even be verbal bullying behaviour if it is repeated.

As Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, you can challenge this negative behaviour and explain that it is unkind to call someone else names.

It is also important to remember that **'snitching'** is not the same as **'reporting.'** So, what is the key difference?

Match the word to the correct definition by drawing a line between them.

SNITCHING

When you inform a trusted adult or Anti-Bullying Ambassador about bullying behaviour because you want to ensure that the target is safe and getting support.

REPORTING

When you purposefully tell an adult about something that someone has done to try to get them into trouble.

You can think of it like this: while snitching gets someone INTO trouble, reporting gets someone OUT of trouble.

If you were experiencing bullying behaviour, you would want someone to help you get out of trouble. This is why we should all report bullying behaviour and encourage others to do the same.

## WHY SHOULD YOU REPORT BULLYING BEHAVIOUR?

At The Diana Award, we regularly conduct surveys so that we can hear from young people, just like you!

In 2021 our Anti-Bullying Ambassador Survey showed that the majority (70%) of trained young people who reported bullying behaviour to their school felt that things got better as a result.

These experiences of other young people highlight that reporting bullying behaviour usually helps the situation gets better, which is why we should all do it!

## WHAT CAN ANTI-BULLYING AMBASSADORS DO TO ENCOURAGE REPORTING?

Calling someone a 'snitch' or 'snake' discourages young people from reporting bullying behaviour and creates a culture where young people feel afraid to tell someone.

As Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, we should be challenging this type of language whenever we hear it, so that everyone feels confident and safe to report.

**Can you think of any activities that your Anti-Bullying Ambassador team could organise to challenge the concept of 'snitching' and encourage reporting instead?**

*e.g. displays or posters about the difference between snitching and reporting*

## REPORTING TOOLS

One of the ways to make reporting easier for everyone is to have lots of reporting tools in place in school. This gives young people a choice of how and when they can report.

It can also protect the **anonymity** of the reporter. This means that the person's identity is protected so that nobody else knows that it was them that reported the bullying behaviour to the teacher.

Remember that in school you can go up to any teacher and tell them about bullying behaviour. You can also tell another Anti-Bullying Ambassador.

Can you think of any reporting tools that you could create in your school? Remember to be as creative as possible!

Examples of reporting tools used by other Ambassadors in the past include an anonymous reporting box, such as a bully box, where students can report their concerns on paper slips, or an email address that young people can contact if they would prefer to report online.

We're proud to be the only charity set up in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales, and her belief that young people have the power to change the world. It's a big mission but there are two things within it that we focus our charity's efforts on – young people and change.

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Throughout all of our programmes and initiatives, 'change' for and by young people is central, including our anti-bullying work which encourages change in attitudes and behaviours.

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We hope you found this resource useful and wish you all the best in your anti-bullying journey. If you would like to help us create more resources and train even more Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, you can make a £5 donation by texting CHANGE 5 to 70470 or visit [diana-award.org.uk/donate](https://diana-award.org.uk/donate)

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