

Bullying: Answers

Darren

Darren tells his friends that the graze on his arm is because he fell off his skateboard last night. Andrew laughs and calls him an “idiot”.

Not bullying – this is good-natured banter between friends.

Emily

Emily is in Year 10. A girl (who is in Year 7) bumps into her in the dining hall. Emily's drink slops onto her tray. Emily turns and says “You stupid little prat” to the younger girl.

Not bullying – this could have been handled far better by Emily, but her temper got the better of her. The Year 7 girl would almost certainly have apologised for the accident, and was probably quite scared at having annoyed an older girl. However, it would only be bullying if it was repeated or followed up on another occasion.

Narinder

Narinder receives a phone call on her mobile phone at 7am. There is no one there and the caller ID is withheld.

Her friends say it was not them, but Narinder sees some other girls in the room giggling at the story.

The silent phone calls keep happening.

Bullying – this involves repeated attempts to disturb and hurt Narinder.

Asif

Mr Asquith hands back a test to Asif saying “Complete rubbish – bring back the old Asif!”

Not bullying – this is a one-off comment which, while quite harsh, is softened by praise for Asif's previous performances.

David

David is in Year 4. He pays his ‘lunch tax’ to the Year 6 boys who hold out their arms to stop him going into the dining hall.

They thank him, laugh at him, and say they look forward to seeing him tomorrow.

Bullying – there is ongoing extortion of money from a younger student.