

The Anti-Bullying ambassadors have been discussing and researching, how best to support KSI children at Oakway. They will be working along side the School Council in term 5 to improve children's playtime and friendships by introducing a 'buddy bench.' **Watch this space!**

## What is a buddy bench?

A buddy bench is a bench placed in a school playground or park serving a special purpose. If a child feels lonely, left out or needs someone to play with, they can sit on the buddy bench. This signals to other children that they want a friend or some company.



Pupil voice was gathered in KSI this term to gauge how the children feel and how they can be best supported. Here's what they had to say!



Some year 1 and 2 pupils were spoken to and here are some of the results.

- 8 out of 19 children felt lonely at times and communicated that sometimes they did not have anyone to play with.
- 12 out of 19 children did not know what a buddy bench was so the ambassador's explained what it was and how it worked.



**"If you see someone not smiling, share your smile with them".**

**All of the children we spoke with, agreed that a buddy bench was a good idea and could support positive play and reduce loneliness.**