



# Lancing College

## Senior School & Sixth Form

Friday 8 November 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians

Next week (11 to 15 November) is National Anti-Bullying Week. It is a week where, country-wide, organisations and individuals reflect on how to build care, support, respect and resilience and how to tackle prejudice, fear, bullying and isolation.

The theme for this week is *Change Starts With Us*, encouraging everyone to see that they have a role to play in creating a world that is friendlier and kinder.

Lancing is proudly celebratory of individuality. We see this expressed this week in classrooms, in the *AlTurnertive* Art exhibition, in the range of talents bringing *My Fair Lady* together, and in the weave of lives together, where the individual strands make an exciting, richly-patterned whole. As a co-educational school with 605 pupils across 10 different Houses, in five different year groups, from 41 different nationalities, we are proudly diverse and people are encouraged to recognise the individual roles they play. Our pupils take on a range of leadership roles and responsibilities at all stages of their time here, are encouraged to stand up for others and to challenge things that are wrong, and to imagine themselves in the shoes of others. As they are reminded in Houses, the Chapel and classrooms, kindness and respect are essential to this community.

During this week, we will be holding a range of events within Houses; making anti-bullying the PSHE focus in all year groups and asking all pupils to reflect on their lives here through the Lancing Questionnaire. The Peer Supporters are taking a key role – chairing discussions in focus groups, organising acts of kindness, thinking about small and positive changes that can be made individually and collectively. Houses will hold a range of events to strengthen a sense of community.

We are also holding a *PSHE for Parents* session next Saturday 16 November, run by the charity [Kidscape](#), a workshop for parents and guardians, on Bullying and Online Safety Awareness. Details will follow early next week.

You may wish to use this week to have your own conversations about positive change; how to influence things for the good and how to challenge things which are hurtful or damaging to others, or to your son/daughter. Please do bring any concerns or queries to their Housemaster/Housemistress or to me.

Active kindness, concern, empathy, an ability to see things from others' perspectives and respect are qualities I see reflected in so many of our pupils each day - and next week is about celebrating these qualities and reinforcing our high expectations of all.

Yours,

Hilary Dugdale  
Senior Deputy Head