

IC PLINIO IL VECCHIO

CISTERNA DI LATINA



ITALIA



Aggression among pupils is a recurring problem in its various forms - **physical aggression**, **bullying**, **cyberbullying** and **social exclusion** - but today's school communities can **fight it** in an innovative and modern way through

PEER MEDIATION.

By applying a **creative method** of conflict resolution-mediation, the entire education system can function successfully.

Peer mediation - where conflicting students work with a student mediator - has **several advantages**.

When properly used

- it can be a form of **personal and civic education**
- it helps young people **take responsibility** for their behavior
- it shapes **social and moral attitudes** and values as well as communication skills and supports the family.



It also develops **empathy** and **sensitivity**, and builds interpersonal relationships, which in today's world are often replaced by new technologies. Peer mediation is also useful for **reducing conflict escalation** and the transition from verbal to physical aggression.



At school, disputes are often resolved with the **external intervention of an adult** who decrees who is right, who is wrong and who will have to apologize, even if very often given the previous conflicts, **the children will return to quarrel.**

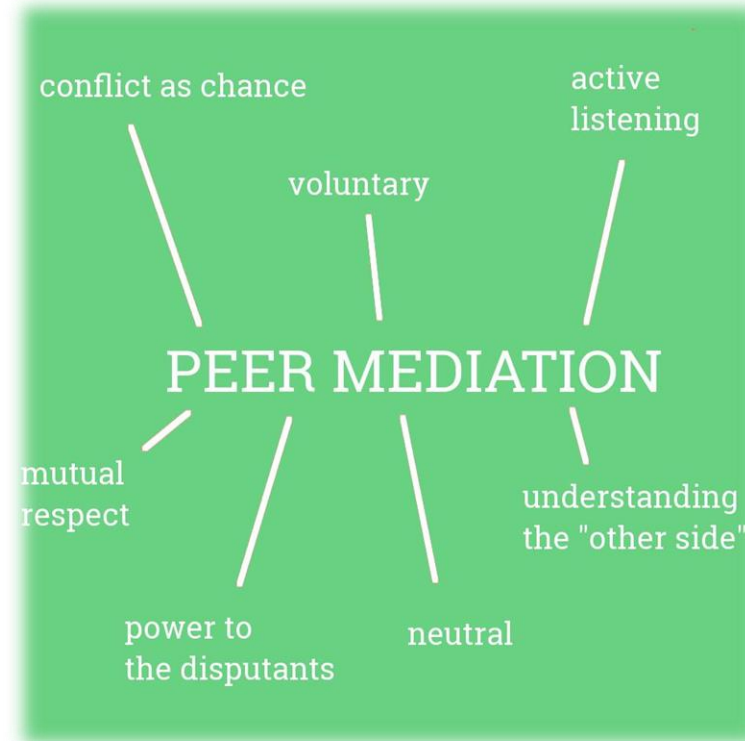


Peer mediation gives students the **opportunity** to talk about their problems **without fear** that the authority of an adult will intervene to judge their behavior, thoughts or feelings.



Disputes are resolved by **students-judges** through a healthy confrontation to find an agreement, but with precise rules.

Our Institute has chosen to implement peer mediation precisely in order to **reduce** these phenomena of violence.



This new, winning technique of peer mediation is experimented:
a peer of the same age mediates
between the two litigants.

Thanks to this innovative methodology among peers, we try to think together and overcome the pre-existing contrast and frictions, but following **precise rules** that must be put in place by every part involved.



- 1 The first step is to select students through objective tests, since mediators must have specific characteristics: **the ability to listen, calmness and the propensity to be neutral.**

In fact, this way of managing conflicts starts from

the awareness that no one is right,

but all the contenders have a part of right or wrong.

After they have become aware of the causes of the conflict, therefore, they must find solutions together, always thanks to the leadership of their fellow **mediator**.

It must be the boys in conflict who are asking for mediation to take place.



To put into practice what is now a consolidated method - and also appreciated by school children - a neutral space was dedicated, a **blue-painted mediation room**.

A special table in the shape of a **triangle** was also purchased at the base of which the mediator sits so that the two parties involved can **look each other in the face**.



On the walls there are the **rules to follow**:

do not scream, do not insult, do not rage, do not interrupt, do not swear.

If and when the conflict is resolved, a pact will be drawn up, a kind of **contract** where it is said that the mediation has been successful, and both parties in dispute will sign to establish peace.



We are convinced that

mediation is a form of civilization.

Developing this methodology in children also has a strong impact on their social life: when children find themselves experiencing conflicts with this type of baggage,

they strengthen their self-control.



The motivation in students' growth is fundamental.

Since the implementation of this method in some schools has shown its considerable effectiveness and has revealed the possibility of a positive and educational influence on young people, **it could be taken into consideration by European school systems and tested on a larger scale.**



BE KIND

*for everyone you
meet is fighting a
hard battle.*

-Plato

BE

a peer mediator



**Student Led
Peer Mediation**
CRCSTL.ORG/PeerMediation

