



BULLIES GET THEIR CLAWS INTO KITTY

EXCLUSIVE

BY MARK JEFFERIES
mark.jefferies@mirror.co.uk



X Factor chiefs fear she'll quit

TEARFUL Kitty Brucknell could quit X Factor because of bullying, bosses fear.

Kitty has told pals the situation is "intolerable" and she is being shunned by her housemates. She has also been heard complaining that people "don't understand her" amid fears she is on the edge of a meltdown.

Earlier this week she was blasted by former contestant Jonjo Kerr, who dubbed her "strange" and claimed: "Everyone in the house is f***ing sick of her crying and moaning."

Now production staff have taken the unusual step of giving 26-year-old Kitty her own room in the contestants' house, but anti-bullying campaigners have hit out at her abuse.

A show source said: "Kitty has clashed with other contestants and some of them really don't like her. They think she is attention-seeking.

We don't want her to be in any more hostile situations, or risk her feeling bullied, so now she has her own room. She is the first contestant to get their own room this series.

"Hopefully things will settle down now and everyone will concentrate on their singing.

"The last thing we want is Kitty walking out. She is one of the stars of the show."

But Sherry Adhami, communications director at charity BeatBullying said: "Being harassed and abused is totally unacceptable.

"People mistakenly think it is only young people who can be bullied. That's not the case. Just because Kitty is in her 20s, bullying can still cause many of the same problems.

"People who are bullied can easily be led to severe depression, and sadly there are too many instances where that leads to other problems, most alarmingly self-harm and even suicide."

Talking about the online abuse - including sick Facebook campaigns - Sherry added: "People say even more hurtful things online because they think there are no consequences for their actions."

Kitty has previously defended her behaviour, insisting she was not playing to the cameras.

She added: "Sometimes confidence can come across as arrogance. I'd like to say I don't have regrets but I have definitely made some mistakes on The X Factor like sitting down on stage in the first audition.

"But hey, I am not perfect. I just want to sing and perform. For me it's all about the music."

An X Factor spokesman confirmed Kitty was being moved to her own room and said: "Contestant welfare is of paramount importance and activity in the house is supervised at all times."



▲ EMOTIONAL Kitty crying on show