



Welcome to the April edition of the Dudley Schools Anti-Bullying Pledge Scheme Newsletter, signposting you to a range of national, regional and local anti-bullying initiatives and resources.

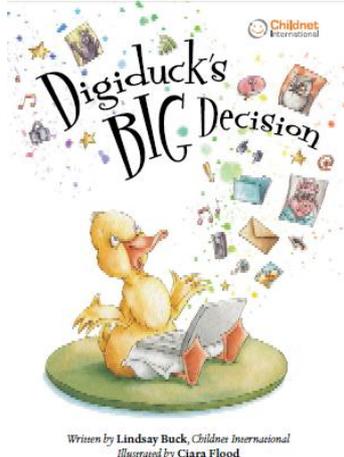
## In this issue:

**New online behaviour resource for 3 – 7 year olds**

**BBC bullying advice factfiles for teenagers**

**Readers invited to share ideas and good practice**

**Bullying and young carers new research - and resource pack project launched**



Written by Lindsay Buck, Childnet International  
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### Digiduck's Big Decision:

a story of friendship and responsibility online is the latest resource for 3-7 year olds from Childnet International and the UK Safer Internet Centre. The resource is now live on the Kidsmart site. The e-book can be read online and also downloaded free of charge. The story offers a way to talk about behaviour on the internet, as Digiduck learns what it means to be a good friend online.

<http://www.kidsmart.org.uk/teachers/ks1/digiduck.aspx>

Printed copies of Digiduck's Big Decision are available to order with kind support from **Microsoft**. For details on how to order visit [www.childnet.com/order](http://www.childnet.com/order).

The straight facts on teenage issues brought to you by radio 1 and 1Xtra [here](#)



BBC Advice factfiles help young people with a broad range of issues. They're based on advice from medical professionals, government bodies, charities and other relevant groups. Follow the links on each page for more advice from these organisations.



**Research by Carers Trust and the University of Nottingham showed that a quarter of young carers surveyed have been bullied at school because of their caring role.**



Schools should consider if high absences are linked to their pupil being a young carer who lacks support, or is being bullied. The last thing young carers need is for their absences to be punished or stigmatised. There are young carers in every school class - a survey carried out by the BBC in 2010 estimated there were 700,000 young carers in the UK, equivalent to 1 in 12 school children. On average young carers will miss half a day of school each fortnight as a result of their caring role. Thanks to grant funding from the [Ben Cohen StandUp Foundation](#), we plan to enable real positive change for young carers in schools. We would like to help reverse the statistics that show that caring responsibilities have a significant impact on a pupil's health, wellbeing and learning. Statistics that include a quarter of young carers in the UK saying they were bullied at school (Carers Trust, 2013), and young carers having significantly lower educational attainment at GCSE – the equivalent to nine grades lower than their peers for young carers in England (The Children's Society, 2013). The funding will be used to develop a resource pack for schools as well as strategies to identify the significant number of hidden young carers in Dudley. If you would like to be involved in this important research and development, please get in touch.

Do you have a contribution for the next newsletter? Can you share your experience / good practice? Email [Lynda.kesterton@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:Lynda.kesterton@dudley.gov.uk)

