Dudley Schools Anti-Bullying Pledge Scheme

Newsletter

Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council

Welcome to the June 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.
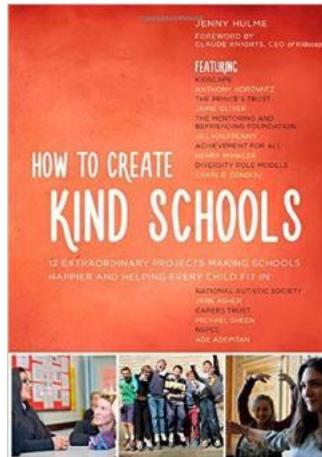
In this issue:

- **Two new books published: "How to Create Kind Schools" and "Making Your Primary School E-safe"**

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

- **Tips on choosing anti-bullying resources**

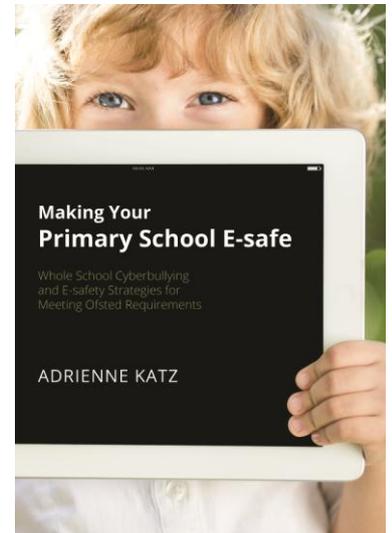- **St Mary's CE primary school achieve full pledge scheme**

How to Create Kind Schools - new book published. Click here

The book offers readers an insight into a collection of innovative projects currently running in schools to promote inclusion, tolerance and kindness. From a gay role model to a peer mentor, a dance workshop to a gardening club, an autism ambassador to a travelling Gypsy theatre group, the ideas demonstrate how much we have to teach our children about inclusion, how much kindness matters, and how much of a difference schools can make to children who don't always feel they fit in. Joining forces with well-known charities and celebrity supporters including Anthony Horowitz, Jamie Oliver, Michael Sheen and more, these accessible, fun and effective projects are tackling issues such as bullying, homophobia, racism, and truancy, are supporting pupils who may feel isolated and excluded from their peer group, and are helping whole schools become happier, more successful settings. This book will provide inspiration to all educational professionals, parents and volunteers looking for creative and practical ways to help individual children fit in and feel happy in their class.

Making Your Primary School E-safe – great new resource from Adrienne Katz: Whole school cyberbullying and e-safety strategies for meeting Ofsted requirements.

Primary school children are becoming as tech savvy as their older siblings, so there is increasing need to tackle e-safety and cyberbullying at a young age. But little girls too often say they are afraid of the internet and too many children find e-safety lessons boring or a turn off. Could there be another approach to teaching e-safety? This practical teaching resource for primary school staff outlines effective policy and practice and provides ready-to-use activities to help schools meet Ofsted requirements for e-safety. http://www.jkp.com/uk/making-your-primary-school-e-safe.html

Choosing a resource

Bullying is a sensitive and complex area. There are lots of ways of approaching the subject - and not everyone will agree on the best method. It may also be that a resource works well in one setting, with one group of children and young people, but works less well in another. For this reason take the following steps when choosing an anti-bullying resource:

1. Make sure you familiarise yourself with the resource (e.g. if it's a film - watch it all the way through).
2. Consider whether the resource may provoke strong reactions in any students, or may lead to difficult discussions. How will you manage these?
3. Consider whether you need to consult with parents and carers on using the resource.
4. Consider whether the resource is suitable for the age group you are working with.
5. Consider whether you need to adapt the resource in any way to make it suitable for the group or individuals that you are working with.

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

Sidebar

- New research study from Warwick University

- Large percentage of Dudley schools engaged with the anti-bullying strategy and Pledge Scheme

- New student project kit to download from NetSmartz

- New resource from Common Sense Education

- Training for school staff 10th July 2015 at Saltwells

Main content

"Being bullied is not a harmless rite of passage or an inevitable part of growing up; it has serious long-term consequences. It is important for schools, health services and other agencies to work together to reduce bullying and the adverse effects related to it." Professor Dieter Wolke, University of Warwick.

Latest research shows that bullying adversely affects children in later life more than being maltreated. Read more

Congratulations to St Mary's CE Primary, the latest school to achieve the full pledge scheme status. Currently over 70% of primaries and 80% of secondary schools are engaged with Dudley's anti-bullying strategy. Don't miss out! If you would like more information about signing up to the pledge scheme and working towards accreditation, please contact: Lynda.kesterton@dudley.gov.uk

NetSmartz teaches children aged 5-17 about online safety and digital citizenship. It offers free, age-appropriate resources including videos, games, e-books, webcomics, presentations, classroom lessons, and tip sheets to help children learn how to protect themselves and their friends online. Parents, educators, and law enforcement can use these materials to engage children in discussions about online issues ranging from privacy to cyberbullying. Download the kit here

NetSmartz student project

LEAD A CLASSROOM ACTIVITY 17

common sense digital compass
Where are you headed?

Digital Compass - Where are you headed?

The only educational game that gives students the freedom to explore how decisions made in their digital lives can impact on their relationships and future. Read more

Learn the fundamentals of digital citizenship through animated, choose-your-own-adventure interactive experiences. Invite students to explore digital dilemmas, make good (and not-so-good) decisions, and try out possible solutions through stories and mini-games – all without risking their real-world reputations. Discover how Common Sense Education's award-winning digital literacy and citizenship curriculum seamlessly integrates into blended-learning environments.

Date for your diary

We are delighted to announce that the next round of **FREE** training in partnership with the Anti-Bullying Alliance and Achievement for All 3As will begin with a day for schools on **10th July 2015** at Saltwells EDC. Here is a short film which shows what has been achieved so far:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=59Tp_uaPsVA

PUT THIS on YOUR CALENDAR!