



Welcome to the May 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 book published: Challenging Homophobic Bullying

Readers invited to share ideas and good practice

Top tips from year 3 children at St Mary's CE primary school

Dudley LA to become an Anti-Bullying Alliance Champion

Challenging Homophobic Bullying

Jonathan Charlesworth

What is homophobic bullying and what do you do about it? Why do young people bully and how can you prevent it? This practical handbook guides you through dealing with homophobic bullying, supporting those who bully and those who are bullied, and creating inclusive environments. Essential reading for teachers and others working with young people.



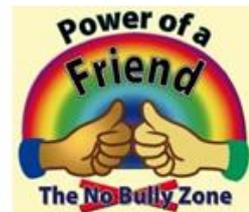
Dudley MBC Anti-Bullying Strategy:



Following the recent successful events in partnership with Achievement for All 3As, the Anti-Bullying Alliance has invited Dudley LA to become an ABA Champion and lead the way in tackling bullying of children and young people. By March 2016, free training for at least 60 of our schools will be provided, along with training for the wider children's workforce and training, advice and support for parents/carers of children with SEND. Free online training for an unlimited number of professionals will also feature as well as helpline support about bullying for parents/carers. Look out for emails giving more details and event dates soon!

Do Not Bully : TOP TIPS

1. If you have nothing nice to say, do not say it at all.
2. If somebody pushes you, do not push them back. Tell an adult.
3. Be kind to your friends, your family and your teachers.
4. God says, "Be kind to people".
5. Don't be jealous. If somebody has something you want, do not be mean to them.
6. Hands are for helping, not for hurting!
7. Feet are for walking, not for whacking!



Year 3

St. Mary's CE (VC) Primary School, Kingswinford



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



In this issue:

Special report:

On 18th March 2015, a celebration event was held at Himley Hall to mark the success of Dudley's participation in a national programme to reduce the incidence and impact of bullying on learners with special educational needs and disabilities. Over seventy people attended, representing schools and the wider children's workforce across the borough.

The conference was opened by Cllr Tim Crumpton (Cabinet Member for Children's Services) who welcomed delegates and emphasised local authority commitment to the anti-bullying agenda. This was followed with an address by Marius Frank, National Programme Lead and Director Materials Development at Achievement for All.



Jassi Broadmeadow (Divisional Lead for Safeguarding) reiterated the importance of our anti-bullying agenda and spoke from the heart about her own experiences in school and how building resilience is key. Achievement coach Hannah Hall presented an Ofsted perspective and Lynda Kesterton outlined the local offer of the Dudley Schools Anti-Bullying Pledge Scheme as well as next steps and new projects. Adrienne Katz (Director Bullying Intervention Group and author of Cyberbullying and E-Safety) gave a wealth of advice on training whole school staff, new technologies and emerging trends, as well as identifying vulnerable groups. Certificates were presented to all delegates who had completed one of the training sessions which ran in June and November 2014.

We were delighted to welcome two members of the Youth Council, Connor (Chair) and Becky (Representative for Young Carers). They gave a compelling account of how bullying in schools was identified as the number one issue by children and young people in Dudley and highlighted their ongoing campaign to address this concern. Again they called for all schools to sign up to the Dudley Schools Anti-Bullying Pledge Scheme. Children from Quarry Bank Primary School added their voice by performing a rap which they had written themselves – so impressive; we asked them to perform it twice! There were opportunities for group discussions around sharing effective practice and a roundup of the impact of the programme to date. Evaluations overwhelmingly confirmed the value of the event and we can now confirm that Dudley LA will be one of eight local authorities to become anti-bullying champions.



What this means:

- Training for school leaders** - 3 face to face training sessions supporting 60 local schools. An **online wellbeing questionnaire** for all children in participating schools.
- Training sessions for the wider children's workforce** (i.e. social workers, police officers, health workers, LSCBs, OTs, EPs etc) – 2 face to face training sessions.
- Training sessions for parents/carers of disabled children** and/or children with SEN about bullying issues – 2 face to face training sessions.
- Online training** : for an unlimited number of professionals working with or in schools/children's sector about anti-bullying and SEN/disability issues including an online module about **cyberbullying**
- For parents and carers** of disabled children and those with SEN (relevant to all parents) **Helpline support about bullying for parents/carers** of disabled children and those with SEN.
- An event at the end of the programme to spread the learning** throughout our local authority and neighbouring authorities.

Watch your inbox for further details and training dates!