

**ABA Conference: Supporting Parents and Carers to Tackle bullying:
Thursday 26 June 2008**

We wrote to ABA member reps earlier this week with some information about the above conference (see below flyer). We understand that your organisation does some work directly with parents and we hope you might be willing to help us find parents to participate in the conference. The key audience for the conference is practitioners who work with parents and carers so it is imperative that we hear the voices of these groups during the day.

We plan to have around 20 parents/carers attending, with a good cross representation in terms of age and gender of children and experience of bullying.

Could you help us by suggesting two or three parents you feel would like to attend and to participate?

We will cover expenses including transport and childcare (if needed) for each parent. Ideally, we hope that a participant from your organisation could accompany the parent/parents on the day. However, we will make sure that every parent will have individual support - including a designated table host.

Once we have the details of those attending we will write to each parent with further information about the conference and, nearer the time, we will send through names of their supporter(s) and give details on how to claim expenses.

We would be grateful if you could discuss this with appropriate colleagues. To save you time in getting back to us on this Jan Fry - who is working with me on the planning of the conference - will give you a call next week to discuss if/how we might take this forward. If you would like to discuss any details in the meantime Jan can be contacted in the first instance by e-mail at thefrys@blueyonder.co.uk.

Sue Steel, National Coordinator, Anti-Bullying Alliance
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Tel: 0207 843 1165
www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Please book _____ place(s) at the above conference for:

(Please photocopy this form for the names of additional delegates)

Forename	Surname
Job title	Organisation
Department	Address
Tel	Fax

To ensure delegates have timely information on this event we will be corresponding by email wherever possible. To help us ensure effective communication, **please print your email address in the space below**. If you would specifically prefer hard copies of correspondence, please indicate below.

Email _____

Do you have any dietary/access requirements? _____

**All no shows will be charged £50 + VAT.
However substitutes can be made at any time.
All cancellations must be made in writing**

☐ I would rather receive hard-copy correspondence

Please contact NCB Conferences and Training on 020 7843 6441 if you have not received confirmation and joining instructions at least two weeks prior to the date of the event.

Once complete, please return to: Conferences Department, National Children's Bureau, 8 Wakley Street, London, EC1V 7QE, fax: 020 7843 6039, tel: 020 7843 6042, email: esmith@ncb.org.uk



Supporting Parents and Carers to Tackle Bullying: An Anti-Bullying Alliance Conference

Thursday 26 June 2008
Mermaid Centre, Blackfriars, London

A spotlight has fallen on the role that parents and carers play, both in protecting children from bullying and in bringing up children who reject bullying behaviours. This timely Anti-Bullying Alliance conference provides a unique opportunity to explore how best to support parents and carers in this crucial role.

This free conference will:

- focus on what parents and carers can do to support their children
- examine what agencies and organisations can do to engage parents effectively in finding solutions to this complex and challenging issue
- explore how working together can improve outcomes for children and young people

Drawing together practitioners, parents and carers, this conference provides delegates with an opportunity to hear direct from government and leading agencies. Delegates will then spend the day working actively with experts and with each other to understand the issues and identify ways forward.

The Anti-Bullying Alliance is the nation's leading anti-bullying coalition; a unique organisation of over sixty agencies working together since 2002, with one aim: to stop bullying.

Supported by DCSF

Free Event

Programme

Thursday 26 June 2008

9.15 Registration and refreshments

9.45 Welcome and introduction to the day

10.00 Keynote address: Kevin Brennan,
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children, Young People and Families.

10.30 Bullying in Schools – engaging and working in partnership with parents and carers

11.30 Refreshments

11.45 Bullying in the community – helping children learn how to manage risk

12.45 Lunch

1.30 Cyberbullying – a whole school community approach

2.30 Support for parents, carers and families – policy and practice

3.45 Messages for policy makers

4.30 Close of conference

Speakers

Kevin Brennan, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children, Young People and Families

Sam Bishop, Anti-Bullying Alliance Regional Adviser

Rhiannon Prys-Owen, Anti-Bullying Alliance Regional Adviser

Hilary Chamberlain, Policy Manager, ParentlinePlus

Linda Mitchell, Head Trainer, Miss Dorothy.com

PC Paul Dowsett, Safer Schools Officer, Lambeth

Will Gardner, Deputy CEO, Childnet International

Chair

Michele Elliot, CEO, Kidscape

Content

Parents and carers have a critical role in protecting their children from bullying and in supporting their understanding of the damage that bullying does and of the need to reject bullying behaviour.

National policy and guidance has now taken up this theme, with the 2007 DCSF Children's Plan, the government's Staying Safe Action Plan and the revised Safe to Learn anti-bullying guidance all highlighting a role for parents and carers in tackling bullying. The Anti-Bullying Alliance recognises the need for a national event to help transform these policy commitments into good practice on the ground.

Our expert speakers will:

- share key thinking and examples of good practice on dealing with bullying in schools, communities and cyberspace
- offer a platform for parents, carers and practitioners to share views and experiences
- showcase different models of engaging parents to raise awareness and improve practice
- offer delegates a voice to send key messages to policy makers – a chance to make a real difference
- demonstrate the types of support parents and carers need to help their child if he/she is being bullied or is bullying others
- provide a chance to hear directly from the Department for Children, Schools and Families

Who should attend?

Practitioners who provide support and signposting services for parents and carers, including:

- Local Authority commissioners of parent services
- Head teachers
- Education Welfare Offices
- Educational Psychologists
- Health Visitors
- Social Workers
- Local Authority anti-bullying leads
- Parenting support organisations
- Children's organisations