

Anti-Bullying Updates June 2008

1. Norfolk launches its anti-bullying strategy

Norfolk launched its anti-bullying strategy at Dunston Hall on 19th May 2008. Over 100 delegates attended the event. The strategy sets out Norfolk's commitment to tackling bullying. Organisations are being encouraged to sign up to it. Already several schools have done so. Full details of the strategy and a pro forma for signing up are available on www.norfolk.gov.uk/bullying

2. DCSF Safe to Learn: Embedding anti-bullying work in schools

The DCSF have produced a **suite of guidance** to support schools in developing their anti-bullying policies and work.

These are as follows:

- 2.1 'Safe to Learn: Embedding anti-bullying work in schools'.** (Ref: DCSF-00656-2007) This is a general document outlining the content of an anti-bullying policy and responsibilities of staff. Encourages schools to sign up to the principles of the DCSF Anti-Bullying Charter
- 2.2 Racist bullying** – very practical and useful curricular materials
- 2.3 Homophobic bullying** (Ref: DCSF-00668-2007) is helpfully divided so that staff/Governors can access the information relevant to them. Useful advice on dealing with homophobic language
- 2.4 Cyberbullying** – two documents (Ref: DCSF-00658-2007). A useful 8 page summary guide, which contains useful information for young people, parents as well as staff. Larger document deals with how schools can embed into their practice. Norfolk County Council commended for awareness raising conferences for parents and school staff. Schools will be sent an excellent 8 minute film called 'Cyberbullying: Let's fight it together' which depicts an example of cyberbullying and provides follow up for discussion of issues
- 2.5 SEN and Disabilist bullying** –published recently - May 2008. There is a summary document and full document. Contains a wealth of information and highlights the need for different approaches for different groups according to their difficulty e.g. children with communication difficulties and those with ASD. Norfolk Educational Psychology & Specialist Support mentioned for the training offered to schools and parents on ASD and bullying

All of these documents are available to download from www.teachernet.gov.uk/publications All except the Racist-bullying document is available in hard copy. To order ring 0845 60 555 60 and quote ref above.

3.1 National Anti-Bullying Week 17 – 21 November 2008

- Theme is 'Difference and Diversity'.
- Draft slogan: Celebrating our differences
- ABW (Anti-Bullying Week) pack will be sent to schools in September

3.2 Norfolk ideas so far for Anti-Bullying Week 2008

• **Planning Group** has met twice. Next date set for Tuesday 15th July 4 – 6 pm at the Terrapin, Hewett High school site. All welcome. Confirm attendance with Heather Haycox (heather.haycox@norfolk.gov.uk)

• All organisations will be written to asking how they will be supporting the week with **activities for children/young people**. So far the following organisations have advised how they will support:

- **YOT** have adapted their 'Be bright don't fight' sessions and will be offering these throughout the year to schools
- **Primary and Secondary Behaviour and Attendance Consultants** will offer ideas for activities schools can use during the week
- **School Councils** will be asked to consider how they can get involved
- **Connexions** will be developing information for young people between the ages of 14 – 19 on bullying in the workplace for work experience placements. Connexions will organise the Blue Friday event
- **Norfolk Constabulary and Rainbow Nations** are developing lesson packs on diversity for schools. **PCSOs** will be using anti-bullying materials with schools
- **NSPCC** offer a 6 week course to schools throughout the year
- **Ormiston Trust** will offer anti-bullying activities for children visiting their parents in prison during the week
- **GYROS** will offer activities for children and young people on the theme of anti-bullying
- **Morrison's** are allowing local schools to display artwork on bullying in their stores during the week. Schools to contact directly
- **Libraries** will display books and posters on bullying throughout the week

• **Norwich Playhouse** will be showing an anti-bullying drama performance for KS3 young people entitled 'Silent Scream' on 17th and 18th November 2008

• **Anti-Bullying Alliance Audit** will be offered again online for children and young people to complete

• **Inter area talent competition.** Young people will be asked to develop a creative piece on the theme of 'Difference and Diversity'. It could be anything such as a poster, rap, poem, drama, music, song etc. The winners from each area will present their pieces at the Launch on 17 November at half-day launch at Northgate High school. We are hoping to have a celebrity at this event. Northgate High have agreed to develop a forum theatre on the week's theme

If you have any additional ideas or want to advise what your school will be doing please get in touch with Rita Adair – rita.adair@norfolk.gov.uk

4. Useful Norfolk websites with anti-bullying information

Information for school professionals –

www.schools.norfolk.gov.uk/go/bullying

4.1 Information for parents – www.norfolk.gov.uk/bullying

4.2 Information for young people –

5. Anti-Bullying Policy Checklist

This document is intended to help schools develop their anti-bullying policy. It has been cross-referenced with the latest DCSF Guidance and will be available shortly on the Bullying part of the School professionals website.