

'Smile, No Bullying' Newsletter

Issue No. 5



Nottingham
City Council

NOTTINGHAM
mencap



Smile No Bullying is a Partnership Project between Nottingham Mencap, Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Councils.

The role of the Smile No Bullying Coordinator is jointly funded by Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Council Learning Disability Partnership Boards

Hello! Welcome to the **5th** issue of the 'Smile, No Bullying' Newsletter! Remember, this is **your** newsletter too, so please get in touch with anything that you would like to be included in the future or any upcoming events. The contact details are below.

Happy Reading! *Kirsty*, the 'Smile, No Bullying' Worker



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Contact Details for *Kirsty*, the 'Smile, No Bullying' Worker:
Nottingham Mencap Centre House, 4 Chapel Bar, Nottingham
NG1 6JQ.

Tel: 0115 956 1130 Email: smilenobullying@positivefutures.org



'Smile, No Bullying' Groups

'Smile, No Bullying' groups are for people with learning disabilities or someone who supports/cares for someone with a learning disability.



There is a 'Smile, No Bullying' group that meets monthly at the NHS **Involvement Centre** at Duncan Macmillan House.

Everyone is very welcome at these meetings and the number of people who come is growing. At the last meeting 22 people attended.

The next few meetings have been scheduled and will take place:

Friday 22nd January @ 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Wednesday 3rd March @ 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Wednesday 14th April @ 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Wednesday 19th May @ 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Talk to Kirsty, the 'Smile, No Bullying' worker to find out more about the group, or ring Jane at the Involvement Centre on 0115 993 4568.



I am pleased to let you know that there is a new 'Smile, No Bullying' group that meets at the Rosewood Centre in New Ollerton. Everyone is welcome.

The first meeting will take place:

Thursday 14th January @ 1pm – 3pm



There will also be guest speakers from the Nottinghamshire Police Hate Crime Team.

If you would like to find out more about this group please contact Kirsty, the 'Smile, No Bullying' worker.



'Smile, No Bullying' Groups continued . . .

I am very pleased to announce that Hucknall has a new 'Smile, No Bullying' group that meets monthly. Everyone is welcome; this meeting will take place at Under One Roof, in Hucknall.

The first meeting will take place:

Thursday 28th January @ 10am -12noon

To find out more information about this meeting please contact Kirsty, the 'Smile, No Bullying' worker or phone Kathy Hardwick, Community Access worker on 07929 007 113.



Staff Training

'Smile, No Bullying' staff training workshops are for anybody who works within the Learning Disability services.

The training day will take place at:

Nottingham Mencap
Centre House
4 Chapel Bar
Nottingham
NG1 6JQ

It will start at 10am and will finish at 3pm. Lunch and refreshments are provided.

Dates arranged for 2010:

Friday 26th February
Wednesday 24th March
Wednesday 28th April
Wednesday 26th May

Staff Training Continued . . .

Topics covered in the workshops are:

- _ Understanding bullying
- _ How to tackle bullying
- _ Best practice within your services
- _ Positive image
- _ Case studies

FACTS: From June 2008 onwards over 300 staff have been on 'Smile, No Bullying' training, and thankfully the feedback from the evaluation forms remain very positive, 99% of people who have attended a training day have said the overall day was very good.

For more information or to book onto a course please contact Kirsty, the 'Smile, No Bullying' worker on 01159 561130.

Training sessions can also take place in your work place for staff or service users. Please contact Kirsty, the 'Smile, No Bullying' worker to discuss.

OUTSIDE OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

If you would like to learn more about the work that the 'Smile, No Bullying' Project does or you want to attend a staff training day please contact Kirsty, the 'Smile, No Bullying' worker as above.

Service User training

'Smile, No Bullying' offers training sessions for service users as well as staff. For further information please contact Kirsty, the 'Smile, No Bullying' worker as above.

Schools

'Smile, No Bullying' has been going into schools to talk to children, so that they can:

- Understand that we are all different and that being different is a good thing!
- meet people with learning disabilities
- understand that bullying of anybody who might be different to them is wrong
- know what to do if they see somebody being bullied

'Smile, No Bullying' visits Killisick Junior School

In October a group of us visited Killisick Junior School to present an assembly type presentation to the children, we had a fantastic time, and everyone was lovely and looked after us very well.

I would like to say special thanks to my guests, Roger and members of Evergreens performing arts group, who came with me to share their experiences with the children and perform a short piece of drama. They were all very brave and did a fantastic job!

Quote from Ms. G. Smith – Deputy Head

"The children and staff at Killisick Junior had the chance to hear real-life stories from the members of 'Smile, No Bullying'. The stories and role plays gave the children an insight into how lives are affected by bullying, how to stop being bullied and how to stop others being bullied. The children thought the visitors were very brave to talk about their own experiences and thoroughly enjoyed the assembly.

Killisick staffs were impressed by how engaging the assembly was, and Killisick School would love to work with Nottingham Mencap again, as a way to stop bullying both in school and in the community."



Schools Continued . . .

'Smile, No Bullying' visits Priory Junior School

In November, during Anti Bullying week a group of us visited Priory Junior School to present an assembly type presentation to the children, we had a fantastic time, and everyone was lovely and looked after us very well; we especially enjoyed the cups of tea and snacks that the staff kindly gave us ☺

I would like to mention special thanks to Roger, Wayne and Anthony who came with Me to share their experiences with the children, they were incredibly brave and did a wonderful job!

Quote from Miss O'Neill - Seal coordinator

"The teachers and staff at Priory were delighted to welcome the visitors who shared their experiences of bullying and harassment. Listening carefully, the children had a chance to put themselves in the shoes of people who have faced bullying.

This was a powerful opportunity for the children to understand that we live in a society where we will meet people that look or sound different but underneath these differences, they have feelings, interests and hobbies. Kirsty showed us a fantastic power point that really made the children think about why people bully those who seem different. It helped children to understand what they can do if they are being bullied or if they know someone else is being bullied. At Priory we celebrate the fact that we are all different and the 'Smile, No Bullying' group helped us to develop this. Some of the children were particularly impressed that one of the visitors was a Nottingham Forest supporter and this raised a huge cheer!!

Thank you 'Smile, No Bullying' you helped us to view bullying from the perspective of a person with learning difficulties."



Anti bullying week

Anti Bullying week in 2009 took place from Monday 16th – Friday 20th November. The theme was Cyber Bullying.



During Anti Bullying week 'Smile, No Bullying' had a very busy diary, here are some of the things we got up to:

- Nottingham Mencap held an Awards /Anti bullying evening at Harpenden House. It was a fantastic turnout with over 100 people who attended.
- 'Smile, No Bullying' and Wayne from Evergreen performing Arts, went to The Ace Base Tennis Centre on 2 separate days to present a 90minute interactive workshop to the pupils of Big Woods School and Old Basford Primary School. Special thanks to Wayne you were fantastic!

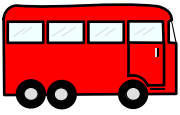
Some of the feedback from the Centre manager, Pete:

"An interesting aspect to these workshops was the inclusion of Wayne. I'm guessing that for many of the pupils this was probably the first time that they had interacted directly with somebody with learning difficulties. The pupils interacted well with Wayne and became more at ease with him as the workshop progressed. For the pupils to consider the experiences of people with special needs in terms of bullying was an extremely useful opportunity for them. Hearing Wayne share his experiences of being abused by others was really important. The workshops encouraged the pupils to think, discuss and take a direct part in the activities as well as share experiences. Thank you very much Kirsty and Wayne!"

- 'Smile, No Bullying' attended and held a market stall an anti bullying showcase at Mansfield Theatre.
- 'Smile, No Bullying' presented an assembly type presentation at the Priory Junior School. (For more details and pictures read the **schools** pages.)

I hope you all enjoyed Anti bullying week as much as we did and I look forward to finding out from you what you did within your own services.

Other news



'Smile, No Bullying' will be making a DVD with Nottingham City Transport to educate drivers. Kirsty, the 'Smile, No Bullying' worker is going to be working hard over the next few months with Nottingham City Transport to make this video.



I am pleased to announce that the Bullying and Hate Incident Report Form has been revised, and Nottinghamshire Police will be announcing a launch for this form soon. If you would like any more information or would like to pilot this form I would love to hear from you.



'Smile, No Bullying' and some of Nottingham Mencap's students had a trip to Nottingham Forest where they toured the ground and had the opportunity to hold the European cup. They had a fantastic afternoon, many thanks to the staff who went to support the event as I was unable to make it due to Staff Training commitments.

I will leave you with some pictures from the trip; I hope you have enjoyed reading this newsletter, Bye for now!

