



<p>Case study reference:</p>
<p>1. Title: RU OK? Cyberbullying conference for young people</p>
<p>2. Area (Local Authority and Region): West Sussex</p>
<p>3. What was the issue? As the new Guidance for staff had been launched and keeping within the theme of Anti-Bullying Week, the West Sussex Anti-Bullying coordinator met with partners from Sussex Police, Youth service, Community Safety, IT services and PSHE Coordinators to plan two events for adults and children about cyberbullying. In a 2008 West Sussex survey, 75% of girls and 51% of boys who had been bullied had been so through electronic means. We had all experienced an increase in requests for support and information on cyberbullying and the Police had encountered many referrals which could have been managed in schools.</p>
<p>4. What action was taken? We decided that the youth conference would be an opportunity to take a snap shot of the knowledge, understanding and skills amongst young people. We also wanted to enable participation by creating opportunities for young people to give us ideas on what works and what else they would like to see being done about bullying in general and cyberbullying in particular. The outcome for the conference for young people were agreed as: . to know what cyberbullying is •To have thought about how it makes us feel •To have thought about ways of preventing it from happening •To have thought about the benefits and risks with using (or misusing mobiles and the internet) •To know some ways of getting support or supporting others •To have some ideas of how to make our schools/ other groups safer for everyone A conference was planned and held for over 70 young people from 15 secondary schools (about 40% of our secondary Speakers from Beatbullying, Anti-Bullying Alliance, Stonewall and workshops were planned and led by West Sussex Youth cabinet. Young people also facilitated in workshops led by Youth offending service, IT curriculum consultants, West Sussex Youth theatre and our Anti-bullying caseworkers. We set up an interactive quiz, an interactive video booth and a “wall for brainstorming ideas from young people”</p>
<p>5. What impact has this had (so far)? The evaluations were 100% positive. The young people were enthused and motivated, especially by being involved in peer education on this day. The feedback was that most young people wanted to take the information back to their school councils and ensure that support was advertised for young people. 3 schools have requested Cybermentors training and 5 schools are holding parents support and information evenings on cyberbullying as a result of attending the conference</p>
<p>6. How did the above action help to embed anti-bullying work in your area? This event really enabled us to develop student voice within the work that we do and opened up more lines of communication with the youth cabinet that are keen to do more work with us. The results of the quiz are available for all schools to see and we are developing a pack for schools to look at how they can use the survey tool to develop their work addressing</p>

cyberbullying to meet their individual needs.

The “wall” and video booth are now being used to develop a “101 Actions against Bullying” leaflet for young people by young people.

We are following up on the actions that young people said that they would take next month to ensure they have the support they need in developments within their school.

7. Additional information (OPTIONAL):

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