



Your views, your Wandsworth

What you said at the Children & Young People's Participation Events

in Anti-bullying Week 2008

*"Celebrating diversity:
being different, belonging together"*

How it began

In 2008, Wandsworth's Anti-bullying Strategy was published and a copy of this can be found in your school, youth club, college and online.

The strategy aims to reduce the chances of bullying happening to children and young people in Wandsworth and is made up of five strands, the first of which focuses on children and young people's participation. So, to encourage the children and young people of Wandsworth to get involved, we asked you for your thoughts and feelings about bullying.

What we did

The theme of Anti-bullying Week 2008 was "Celebrating diversity: being different, belonging together". To celebrate diversity, Wandsworth's Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) held events where children and young people from primary, secondary and special schools came together to express their views about bullying.

- 92% of children and young people said they enjoyed the events
- 93% said they were given a real chance to share their views, and
- 79% said they had found out something new

Who to talk to about bullying

You told us about who you would talk to if you were being bullied. You said you would talk to:

- A parent, or someone else in your family
- A teacher or Learning Mentor
- Your best friend
- Someone you trust and know well

You said the kind of person you would most want to talk to about being bullied should:

- Be caring
- Be positive
- Be helpful
- Be trustworthy
- Be responsible
- Be encouraging
- Be able to communicate using Makaton (sign language) and PECS (Picture Exchange Communication System)
- Be calm
- Listen
- Be friendly
- Understand
- Be gentle
- Take action!

Disabled children and children with learning difficulties said they needed time and space to talk. Everyone (100%) said they would tell someone if they were being bullied or if they saw someone else being bullied. Would you?

You can write the names of the people you would tell about bullying here:

.....

.....

.....

.....

Cyberbullying – on the internet and mobile phones

28% of children and young people said they know someone who has been bullied **on the internet** and, again, **28%** said they know someone who has received bullying-type messages on their **mobile phones**.

You had **lots of ideas** about what to do if this happens:

'Change your email address'

'Tell a teacher and tell your parents'

'Report it'

'Don't keep it to yourself'

'Tell someone how you feel because it could affect your self-esteem and the way you behave in school'

'Do what you think is right'

'Don't delete the message, show it to someone'

As well as the things that work well, you told us that retaliating (fighting back) and ignoring the problem are not the best ways to deal with bullying.

Children and young people also said they know some websites that can help them deal with bullying, such as these:

www.beatbullying.org
www.bbc.co.uk
www.cbbc.co.uk
www.antibullying.net
www.wandsworth.gov.uk
www.childline.co.uk

Do you know any other websites? You can write them here:

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

A large number of children and young people (83%) said they didn't know that information about bullying can be found on Wandsworth Council's website.

You can find out more at:
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/safeguarding and at
www.wscb.org.uk

Again, children and young people had lots of ideas about what they would like to see on the **council's website**, including:

- Advice – tips on what to do if you are being bullied
- Information for bullies about the effect their actions have on others
- A support forum

Other places to find information

As well as the internet, children and young people told us that information about bullying can be found in schools, youth clubs and libraries.

You said **your school** does a number of things to deal with bullying, such as having peer mentors, playground buddies, Circle Time and Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) lessons and assemblies. You also know that your school has an Anti-bullying Policy.

As well as the things that happen already, you told us about other things that would help, such as:

- Getting involved in discussion groups to meet with other young people
- Closer playground supervision by adults and more activities at break and lunch times
- Inviting special guests into schools, youth clubs, etc, to give talks
- Forming a friendship club
- Helping the bullies – tell them they have a choice
- Being involved in the writing and review of your school's policy

You said that posters and books can be found in local libraries about bullying, and in youth clubs you can:

"Learn about how to get along with others, trust people and work together."



You told us that information about bullying should be advertised in **public places**, such as:

- Parks and playgrounds
- Bus stops
- Sports and shopping centres
- Even at home!

Out and about in Wandsworth

Most children and young people said they felt safe travelling around Wandsworth, to and from school. However, some said they felt worried - especially at night.

Most children and young people said they would feel confident reporting bullying if they saw it happen. You told us that if you saw someone being bullied on the street you would seek help from:

- ✦ A police officer
- ✦ Your parents
- ✦ A teacher
- ✦ An adult nearby

You told us that going to school by car was safest, followed by cycling and the train. Walking was said to be fairly safe - more so if walking with friends rather than on your own.

You said travelling around Wandsworth would be safer if there were:

- ✦ School buses
- ✦ Conductors on buses
- ✦ More police around - on buses and on bikes in the mornings and evenings

You also said streets would be safer if there were more CCTV cameras and you would like secure places to lock up your bikes.



What we do next...

What children and young people said will help us to help you. You have given us lots of things to think about, which we can put into action. **We want to stop bullying as much as you do.**



Thank you to the following schools who took part in the events:

- ✓ Alderbrook Primary School
- ✓ All Saints CE Primary School
- ✓ Belleville Primary School
- ✓ Brandlehow Primary School
- ✓ Chesterton Primary School
- ✓ Chestnut Grove School
- ✓ Eardley Primary School
- ✓ Earlsfield Primary School
- ✓ Ernest Bevin College
- ✓ Fircroft Primary School
- ✓ Furzedown Primary School
- ✓ Garratt Park School
- ✓ Granard Primary School
- ✓ Heathmere Primary School
- ✓ Holy Ghost RC Primary School
- ✓ Hotham Primary School
- ✓ John Burns Primary School
- ✓ Paddock School
- ✓ Penwortham Primary School
- ✓ Sacred Heart RC (Battersea) Primary School
- ✓ Sacred Heart RC (Roehampton) Primary School
- ✓ Salesian College
- ✓ Sellincourt Primary School
- ✓ Sheringdale Primary School
- ✓ Southfields Community College
- ✓ St Faiths CE Primary School
- ✓ St Mary's CE Primary School
- ✓ Trinity St Mary's CE Primary School
- ✓ Wix Primary School

Front Image: www.JohnBirdsall.co.uk

Thank you to all those involved in the participation events for children and young people and to High Star Art and Production Company pictured on page 4.

Printed on recycled paper

Designed and produced by the Corporate Communications Unit, Wandsworth Council CS.440 (7.09)