

Achievement for All 

SCHOOLS



Raising standards by reducing the impact and incidence of bullying on vulnerable learners

ANTI-BULLYING PROGRAMME

A free training and staff development opportunity for
all schools and academies in England



FREE DfE-funded training and leadership development (primary, secondary, special and PRUs) to support learners with SEND at risk of bullying

Summary

The link between well-being and high achievement is a known fact.

Schools have made progress over the past twenty years in addressing the social and cultural causes of bullying, and in developing strategies to deal with incidents as they arise.

However, evidence shows there is still more to do:

- The Office of the Children's Commissioner found that disabled children and those with visible medical conditions can be **twice as likely** as their peers to become **targets for bullying behaviour**.
- The National Autistic Society found that **40%** of children on the **autistic spectrum** had been bullied at school.
- Mencap found that nearly **nine out of 10** people with a learning disability experience some form of bullying, with over **two-thirds experiencing it on a regular basis**.

The impact of bullying grows worse as young people move through the education system. Achievement for All 3As, in partnership with the Anti-Bullying Alliance, the Council for Disabled Children and Contact a Family, are delivering an innovative and sustainable programme of work to safeguard children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) from bullying in schools.

The programme will draw on existing and developing effective practice, and on expert advice to understand the distinct vulnerabilities of children with particular SEND to bullying. It will help schools to explore bullying and victimisation in new meaningful ways. The programme will also be designed to build capability and specialist skills in the teaching workforce and to develop leadership approaches to secure positive whole school culture and processes in relation to anti-bullying.

Full participation in the programme will also yield invaluable evidence to feed into the self-evaluation process, in an Ofsted priority area even for schools rated outstanding.

As ever, whole-school improvement aimed at vulnerable learners will also have a profound positive impact across the whole school community.

“...IF I’M BEING BULLIED I FEEL LIKE I’M IN THIS BLACK BOX AND CAN’T GET OUT...”

Council for Disabled Children, 2012

“...I WAS AT SCHOOL, AND THEY CALLED ME A WORD. IT WAS SPASTIC. IT DIDN’T BOTHER ME AT FIRST, BUT THEN A WEEK WENT ON AND THEY CALLED ME IT AGAIN AND AGAIN. OVER AND OVER.”

Council for Disabled Children, 2012

The Programme

Achievement for All 3As is offering all schools in England (primary, secondary, special and PRUs) a free comprehensive package of training and support. Workshops will run simultaneously in ten geographical regions.

THE MAIN EVENT:

A full day of training plus access to an array of free resources. This will consist of:

- Exploring the dynamics and interactions between child being bullied, child exhibiting bullying behaviour and the wider community; SEND specific issues;
- Audit of existing effective practice within school; identifying school-specific areas of change; reviewing effective practice nationally; impact of effective practice on Ofsted evaluative judgments;
- Selecting quick-wins for immediate impact, and longer term developments to transform practice and outcomes;
- Agreeing actions and implementation plans; agreeing what data will inform evaluation.

“THE DAY WAS INCREDIBLY USEFUL AND IT WAS FANTASTIC TO BE GIVEN RESOURCES THAT ARE SO EASY TO ACCESS.”

Sophie Orton, Head of Pupils and Personnel, Ravenshead CofE Primary School, Nottingham

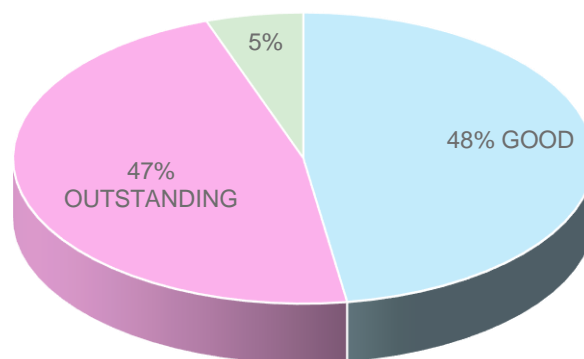
FOLLOW-UP SUPPORT AND REVIEW WORKSHOPS:

Participating schools will also benefit from an opportunity to review progress, either through planned local workshops or webinars:

- Sharing the journey (the story so far);
- Sharing practice (what is working, what isn't working, identifying barriers to change and strategies to overcome them), locally and nationally;
- Impact audit;
- Quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis;
- Next steps

“...I WANT SCHOOLS TO TAKE BULLYING MORE SERIOUSLY- DISABLED CHILDREN ARE MORE VULNERABLE TO BULLYING...”

Council for Disabled Children, 2012



Of the schools trained around the country to date, **95%** felt more confident in leading a change programme that will have a positive impact on SEND bullying in their school community.

School commitment

Schools will commit to supporting one member of staff (ideally a senior colleague) to attend the session(s). The training clusters will be local to minimise travel costs.

Many of the effective practice interventions and actions will require little in the way of additional resources to implement. However, some interventions may require additional specialist training and resources.

It is strongly recommended that, at some stage of the programme, all staff, governors, parents and, of course, pupils, are involved in reviewing school anti-bullying practice. The Anti-Bullying Alliance is designing a SEND specific well-being questionnaire to which participating schools will have free access which will help to assess and evaluate impact.

So far, the response from participating schools has been extremely positive:

- **98%** of delegates who have attended training so far have rated the training good or better
- **98%** felt more confident in identifying resources and strategies that will have a positive impact on SEND bullying in their school community.
- **95%** felt more confident in leading a change programme that will have a positive impact on SEND bullying in their school community.

Benefits

- Access to the latest research findings and a comprehensive directory of effective practice.
- Audit tools to help to identify interventions that will have highest impact.
- Materials (presentations, audit tools, etc.) suitable to support whole school training and staff development.
- Evidence base for self-evaluation

Invitation to join

To register, please complete the on-line registration form available on the Achievement for All 3As website: www.afa3as.org.uk/antibullying

To find out more, contact: Ann Ruthven - antibullying@afa3as.org.uk
Or telephone Anne Cameron: 01635 279639