

'Bullying – We're all in it together'

Anti-Bullying Network Conference November 2004

CONFERENCE THEME:

'To be effective, anti-bullying policies must take into account the fact that schools are communities composed of both adults and children'



November 2004

ORGANISATION **LGBT Youth Scotland**

FOCUS **Theatre in Education**

Can you briefly describe any initiatives or projects in place that illustrate the focus of our conference?

LGBT Youth Scotland has a developmental focus on challenging homophobia in schools and other youth settings. Schools should be places where teachers and young people alike feel able to 'come out'. Theatre in education is a powerful medium to address what is often a sensitive or challenging area.

How are these initiatives being monitored and evaluated?

Our work in schools is at a developmental stage, so pilot training work and evaluation by participants is a key part of the process.

What are some of the biggest challenges faced by teachers, young people, adult members of the school community, or members of your organisation, in implementing the initiative or project?

Myths around this type of work often leave teachers feeling a lack of confidence in raising this issue. LGBT young people in schools often feel isolated, without anyone to tell.

What has worked well?

Teacher training on challenging homophobia and LGBT issues generally has been well received. Theatre in education (TIE) is a powerful medium to engage young people in this challenging area.

What did not work & lessons learned?

It proved a challenge to stay focussed on the programme as our relationships with pupils and staff developed. We could see the potential for learning at every stage in the process.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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The Outline series provides an opportunity for members of school communities to describe good practice. An opportunity to participate in the series is offered to schools presenting workshops at Network events.

Future plans?

Development of Inset Teacher Training
Development of anti-homophobic bullying materials

Any materials the school/organisation is willing to share or relevant publications that are for sale?

Developing Practice for the Reduction of Homophobic Bullying in Scottish Youth Settings is available priced £4.00

A poster resource set designed to challenge homophobic bullying is also available priced £10.00

See www.lgbtyouth.org.uk or stand at conference for details

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