



## East Lothian Council

### **What initiatives are in place to reduce bullying?**

Within East Lothian there are many initiatives in place to reduce bullying. They include:

- a centrally located facility with extensive resources
- ELPPAB - East Lothian Parents and Pupils Against Bullying
- Anti-Bullying/Parent Support Officers
- Anti-Bullying co-ordinators in every school
- an Anti-Bullying forum
- Conflict Resolution Charter groups
- Shared Concern Method: some staff in every secondary school are trained in this method, and there is also a rolling training program for primary teachers.

### **How are these initiatives being monitored and evaluated?**

- ELPPAB has an ongoing self evaluation program which is supported by the East Lothian Council.
- There is an authority wide statistical database holding information on bullying incidents.
- There are internal school monitoring systems.

### **What are some of the biggest challenges faced by East Lothian Council in implementing these initiatives?**

- the challenges of time management
- financial difficulties regarding staff training
- difficulties regarding raising awareness about different strategies and ways of working with young people.

### **What worked well?**

- The Shared Concern Method has been a great asset.
- Anti-Bullying officer has greatly added to the high profile of bullying issues.
- ELPPAB has become an expanding and developing organisation.

### **What did not work and lessons learned?**

Conflict Resolution meeting experience difficulties due to time constraints of members.

### **Future plans?**

- to develop a Resource Library
- to develop authority wide Peer Support programs to increase training in:
  - Solution Focused Methods
  - Circle Time
  - Shared Concern Method
- ELPPAB have future plans to:
  - train volunteer staff as parent advocates
  - produce a regular newsletter
  - develop links with parents groups (awareness raising)

## 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.