

RESTORATIVE APPROACHES IN EDUCATIONAL SETTINGS AND THE LOOKED-AFTER SECTOR

Chaired by: **Belinda Hopkins, Author and Director Transforming Conflict**

The principles, skills and processes of Restorative Justice are being increasingly used not only in the area of criminal justice but also in schools and in the looked-after sector. Restorative approaches emphasise both the importance of repairing the harm done by challenging and anti-social behaviour, and the need to build or re-build connections between those involved.

This national conference on restorative approaches in educational settings brings together experienced school practitioners and those new to the field. There will be opportunities to hear from colleagues who have introduced, and are using, restorative approaches in primary, secondary and special schools and also in residential care settings. Although progress has been made there is much to be learnt from sharing best practice in this new and rapidly expanding field.

Date: Wednesday 29th September 2004

Venue: Sadler's Wells Conference Theatre
Rosebery Avenue
London EC1

Who should attend: Chief Education Officer
Members responsible for Education
Head teachers
School Governors
Residential Care Managers
Youth Offending Team Managers
Educational Psychologists
Secondary Behaviour Support Managers
Primary Learning Support Managers
Safer School Partnership Team Managers



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Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1

MORNING PROGRAMME

- 9:30 **Registration & Refreshments**
- 10:15 **Chair's Opening Remarks**
Belinda Hopkins, Author and Director, Transforming Conflict
- 10:20 **Keynote Address**
Sir Charles Pollard QPM, Chairman, Winchester Restorative Justice Group and Ex-Chief Constable, Thames Valley Police
- 10.40 **Just Schools**
Graham Robb, Headteacher Drayton School, Banbury
Ann Hewett, Deputy Headteacher, Hill View Primary School, Banbury, Oxon
This address will focus on the use of Restorative Approaches in schools. It will emphasise the importance of a whole school approach to Restorative Justice and make the links between what many schools are already doing and how they could become even more restorative.
- 11.05 **Just Care**
Veronica Hart, Care Manager, Hertfordshire
This address focuses on the looked-after sector in Hertfordshire, where all care staff in children's homes have recently been trained in Restorative Approaches.
- 11.30 **An Evaluation of Restorative Approaches**
Mark Bitel, Partners in Evaluation
Mark Bitel and his team from Partners in Evaluation have been evaluating a national Restorative Justice in School project, supported by the Youth Justice Board for the Home Office, involving eight Youth Offending Teams in England and Wales. He will share preliminary findings and their implications for the future.
- 11.55 **Questions and Panel Discussion**
- 12.05 **Refreshment Break**
- 12.20 **Workshop Session 1** (See page opposite)
- 1.15 **Lunch**

AFTERNOON PROGRAMME

- 2.10 **Workshop Session 2** (See page opposite)
- 3.05 **Feed back from Workshops**
Workshop Facilitators
Workshop facilitators will feed back the main issues raised in their workshops to the full conference.
- 3.35 **Questions and Panel Discussion**
Workshop Facilitators
- 3.55 **Key Threads**
Colin Newton and Derek Wilson, Inclusive Solutions
The concluding plenary session will provide an overview of the key issues raised during the day and will provide a view of the future of restorative approaches in educational settings and the looked-after sector.
- 4:20 **Chair's closing remarks**
- 4:25 **Close**

*Delegates should sign up to attend two workshops.
Workshop Session 1 is at 12.20, Workshop Session 2 is after lunch at 2.10*

WORKSHOPS

Workshop A: Implementation of Restorative Approaches in Secondary Education

Graham Robb, Head Teacher, Drayton School, Banbury, Oxon
Ann Hewett, Deputy Headteacher, Hill View Primary School, Banbury, Oxon

This workshop will provide an insight into the use of restorative approaches in secondary schools and provide a case study to illustrate the challenges and rewards of this approach. The workshop is presented by Graham Robb who, as Head of Drayton School in Banbury, fully supported the implementation of Restorative Approaches for over five years.

Workshop B: Implementation of Restorative Approaches in Primary Education

Lorraine Hunter, Head, Lawmuir Primary, North Lanarkshire
Catherine Corrins, Deputy Head, St Andrew's Primary, North Lanarkshire
Anne D'Ouse, Head, Stepps Primary, North Lanarkshire

This workshop focuses on the use of restorative approaches in primary education in North Lanarkshire, one of three pilot projects supported by the Scottish Executive's Restorative Justice in Schools initiative.

Workshop C: Family Group Conferencing

Julia Hennessey, Essex County Council
Liz Holton, Hampshire LEA

Family Group Conferencing provides an approach that involves the wider family network in offering support to a young person who may need help to make changes in his/her life. Liz and Julia have been at the forefront of developing Family Group Conferencing in school contexts. Their approaches differ, and in this workshop they share alternative ways in which FGC's can be used in schools as part of a whole school restorative approach.

Workshop D: Two national pilot Restorative Justice in School projects - the lessons being learnt

Mark Bitel, Partners in Evaluation
Roger Cullen, Youth Justice Board
Dave Padley, Youth Justice Board
Andrew Carter, DfES

Youth Offending Teams and school-based police officers have been pioneering restorative approaches in schools. Both national projects have been supported by the Youth Justice Board and the Safer Schools Partnership (SSP) project is being developed with the involvement of the DfES. In this workshop those most closely involved with project implementation share their experiences and consider the way forward.

Workshop E: Training Care Staff in Restorative Practice Skills

(morning only)

Inspector Tony Walker, Trainer and Consultant, Thames Valley Police
Kathryn Walker, Researcher and Consultant

Tony and Kathryn Walker have been developing training materials and piloting training courses in the looked-after sector in Hertfordshire and will talk about the implications of training in this sector.

Workshop F: Implementation of Restorative Approaches in Special Education

Brian Shelley, Head, Orchard School, Canterbury, Kent
Christine Hatwell, Iffley Meade School, Oxford, Oxon

Since January 2004 Brian has been introducing Restorative Approaches into the special school where he is Head Teacher. Christine Hatwell has been using restorative approaches with young people with moderate learning difficulties (MLD) and emotional and behavioural difficulties (EBD) since early 2003. In the workshop Brian and Christine describe their experiences, reflect on the lessons learnt and future plans for developing these approaches.

Workshop G: Restorative Approaches in the Looked-After Sector

(afternoon only)

Gordon Richardson, South Oxfordshire Youth Offending Team

Gordon Richardson has had experience of introducing Restorative Approaches to care staff in Hertfordshire and this workshop explores some of the recent evaluation findings, and the challenges of the initiative.

PSS

Public Sector Strategies has been facilitating and producing conferences for the public sector since 1994, often in partnership with local government and central government agencies and departments. For a list of forthcoming events please visit www.PSSstrategies.co.uk

Transforming Conflict

Transforming Conflict is an organisation that offers training and consultancy support in educational settings for people seeking to enhance their skills in building a sense of community, fostering a spirit of inclusion and dealing creatively with challenging situations. Our work is underpinned by the philosophy of Restorative Justice, which stresses the importance of relationships above rules and the value of dialogue in healing the damage done to relationships by inappropriate behaviour.

Further information: 0118 933 1520
www.transformingconflict.org

Conference Objectives

- to raise awareness of the impact restorative approaches are having in educational environments, including the looked-after sector
- to explore the links between recent government initiatives in the fields of education, young people's welfare and youth justice
- to provide a forum for those with experience in the field of restorative justice in educational settings to share these experiences with people new to the field
- to share best practice when introducing restorative approaches into new environments, including the issues of training, implementation and sustainability
- to begin to develop a network of support and information exchange to further the development of best educational restorative practice throughout the United Kingdom

Speakers include:

- Sir Charles Pollard, Youth Justice Board
- Mark Bitel, Partners in Evaluation
- Graham Robb, Headteacher, Drayton School, Banbury, Oxon
- Ann Hewett, Deputy Headteacher, Hill View Primary School, Banbury, Oxon
- Veronica Hart, Care Manager, Hertfordshire
- Colin Newton and Derek Wilson, Inclusive Solutions

Further Information

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