



Transforming Conflict

National Centre for Restorative Justice in Youth Settings

Newsletter

Welcome to our second newsletter.

We have a busy month ahead, with members of the team offering training and/or consultancy in Waltham Forest, Harrow, Haringey, Greenwich, Luton, Walsall, Torquay, Glasgow, Stirling, Devon, Lancashire, Hampshire, West Berks and Croatia! Busy as we are we can still do more so if anyone wants to run a course or invite us to do an initial presentation before Christmas get in touch. Of course we are also taking bookings for 2009 and if you want to talk over your training needs do ring Tracy in the office.

If you need only one or two folks trained for now then come along on one of our residential courses. These are based in Reading and the next one takes place from Nov 24th-28th. We still have some places left so [book now](#). The spring course takes place 12th-16th Jan and the summer one 6th-10th July 2009.

Comment from previous participants:

"Excellent course – well presented and extremely relevant " It's like switching the light on in dark corners" – Illuminating!

[More Details of our upcoming courses and events](#)

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OFSTED has recognised the impact of a restorative approach. Is this a first?

In the recent excellent OFSTED report for Iffley Mead School (Oxford), inspectors specifically mention how Restorative Approaches has impacted positively on behaviour and the whole school ethos. Hurray! Congratulations to Headteacher Kay Willett, deputy head (and TC training team member) Christine Hatwell and all their dedicated staff.

Restorative Approaches in the News

October has been a great month for media interest in restorative work in schools. Iffley Mead School has had the attention it deserves with a feature in The Independent followed by an excellent article in the Oxford Mail [link to piece on our website](#)

Following this the TES decided to re-visit the subject and a double page spread provided an excellent overview [Link to article on TES website](#) Mandy Thompson reported on the amazing progress being made in Ormesby School in Middlesborough. Transforming Conflict trainer Phil Bence has now run several courses at this East Middlesborough secondary school and over 25 staff are now on board. Mandy herself joined Phil and team member Paul Moran this term to offer training in a pupil referral unit in Middlesborough and so the message is spreading and supporting the success of staff and young people alike.



Mr. Burrows, Head Teacher at Ormesby School in Middlesborough, now has over 25 staff trained in restorative approaches

Peer Mediation and Mentoring



One question often asked by people new to restorative approaches is 'Where do we find the time?'

Once convinced that the more authoritarian punitive way is ineffective and counter-productive many schools make time by altering the timetable, allocating more staff time to it, training people who are less class-committedand of course simply making whatever they do and say now more restorative..... to name but a few strategies.

However, a huge untapped resource of restorative facilitators can be found amongst the young people themselves. Children as young as 7 can become mediators or buddies.

Belinda Hopkins has published an excellent training manual to help school and residential staff train a team of mentors(who provide a listening ear) and/or mediators (who support people in finding ways forward after conflicts) Transforming Conflict are now offering courses in training school staff to train mentors and mediators based on this well-received resource.

Planning is in the early stages but we are taking bookings now for this 5 day course, which can be delivered in a block or over several weeks. Ring Tracy for more details.

Keep watching our website for our conference updates - 26/27th Feb'09 Think Tank, Birmingham

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