

e bulletin



Issue no. 9

September 2007

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) was founded by NSPCC and National Children's Bureau in 2002. It is hosted and supported by NCB. The Alliance brings together 68 organisations into one network with the aim of reducing bullying and creating safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. This bulletin aims to bring you an update of national news and information about bullying and anti-bullying practice.

Contents

What's New?
Bullying Resources
Bullying in the News
Conferences, Events, Training
Contact Us

What's New?

ABA update – media activity

Just to introduce myself to those who don't know me - I am Anna Tombs, Media Officer at ABA and this is an update on our recent media activity in preparation for our fourth anti-bullying week, and also our work to date with our commercial partners for Anti-Bullying Week 2007.

We have been preparing this year's ABA survey to find out what children and young people really think of bullying in the community. We will be asking a series of questions around bullying outside of school and the impact it has in school, and are currently in the process of consulting with children and young people to make sure that we are asking the right questions with the correct terminology! Once the questions have been finalised we will be asking our member organisations to help us get the survey out to as many children and young people as possible via an easy to use email link.

ABA member organisations and ABA Regional Coordinators are busy planning for Anti-Bullying Week and will be running events throughout the country, and launching new materials, as well as continuing with their own anti-bullying media campaigns.

This year we have three very exciting commercial partners – WICKED the Musical, Nickelodeon and BRATZ THE MOVIE. WICKED – is a musical with bullying at its very core, as it tells the story of the wicked witch of the west and how she was bullied for being different. ABA and WICKED have been working together on a launch event at the theatre itself to start anti-bullying week, anti-bullying vox pops from cast members, as well as ABA editorial in their newsletter (circulation 20,000) and an educational poster with anti-bullying lesson plans.

Nickelodeon – our broadcast partner for the second year running, are continuing their '*See Something, Say Something*' campaign and are working on a poetry competition that invites every primary school class to work together to write an anti-bullying poem. The winner will be judged by young people from YABA and the winner and runners-up will be featured on Nickelodeon and its dedicated website.

Bratz the movie is the story of four best friends who vow to stay best friends forever but the different cliques at high school end up causing rifts between them. ABA has put Bratz in touch with a very experienced teacher who is working with them at the moment to develop an educational resource pack that will be available for schools to use for work on anti-bullying.

The Anti-Bullying Week 2007 resource pack is now available on the [ABA website](#) and a copy of the pack will be arriving in every school in the country from the third week of September.

For media enquiries or information on ABA and Anti-Bullying Week 2007 please contact atombs@ncb.org.uk

'Respectme

'Respectme, Scotland's anti-bullying service, launched its first national awareness-raising campaign on Monday 20 August 2007. 'It's Never Acceptable' reinforces the message that bullying is never acceptable and is not a normal part of growing up. More information about the campaign is available at: www.respectme.org.uk//home/

Bullying Resources

Includes new resources about bullying that have been added to the NCB Library in the past month. NCB's Library can supply photocopies of journal articles upon receipt of a signed copyright declaration form for each item. Enquirers may order up a maximum of four articles at a cost of £4.00 per article. Whole books or pamphlets cannot be copied or loaned. To order photocopies, contact Sandra Fowler, Information Officer, Tel: 020 7843 1901 or Email: sfowler@ncb.org.uk

DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES (2007)

Improving behaviour and attendance: guidance on exclusion from schools and pupil referral units. New guidance for head teachers, teachers, school governing bodies, local education authorities and Independent Appeal Panels on statutory guidance on exclusions procedures. The guidance also applies to Pupil Referral Units and maintained nursery schools, but not to city technology colleges, independent schools or academies. The guidance reflects changes brought about through the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and comes into effect from 1 September 2007. Pupils may be excluded for 'persistent and defiant misbehaviour including bullying' and the guidance includes links to other documents and resources about bullying. Available at: www.teachernet.gov.uk/wholeschool/behaviour/exclusion/guidance2007/

FIELD, E. (2007)

The bullying game. SEN: The Journal for Special Needs no.29 (Jul/Aug). pp30-31. Evelyn Field, author of 'Bully Blocking', outlines her six-step model, which she developed to help young people who are being bullied deal with the consequences of bullying and acquire techniques to protect themselves for the future.

HOMEL, J. (2007)

A life-course perspective on bullying. In FRANCE, A., and HOMEL, R. (eds) Cullompton: Willan. Pathways and crime prevention, pp172-194. Shows how a life course developmental perspective provides a useful framework for exploring continuity and discontinuity in bullying from childhood to young adulthood, and across different social and institutional contexts. Discusses the implications of a life-course perspective for prevention of bullying.

Bullying in the News

In the media

The Guardian's *Back to School* supplement includes information on preparing children to return to school, encouraging children to eat healthy school meals, how schools can help children with allergies, technology in schools and school uniforms. It also contains an article about bullying, which looks at ways in which parents can help their child who is being bullied and examines different anti-bullying approaches used by schools. Gill Frances, programme manager for the Anti-Bullying Alliance, is quoted throughout the article. Another article describes the growing problem of cyberbullying, discusses research into the problem carried out by the Anti-Bullying Alliance, and looks at ways to deal with it. Guardian, Supplement, 24 Aug 2007, pp1-7

The majority of teenagers left by their parents to fend for themselves over the holidays feel at risk of bullying, according to the children's charity 4Children (formerly Kids' Club Network). A recent survey by the charity found that 70% of full-time working parents continue their jobs over the summer break. The survey, which questioned 16,000 children aged 11-16, found the break is when many children and young people fear being a victim of crime, anti-social behaviour and bullying. Seventy-two per cent had witnessed anti-social behaviour in the past year and 66% had been bullied, many outside of school. Because of what they had seen and with no access to teachers, 70% said they were fearful for their safety during the summer holidays. More at: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/6930849.stm>
BBC News, 4 August 2007

In Parliament

Parliament is in recess until 8 October 2007.

Conferences, Events, Training

Anti-Bullying Week Opening Half-Day Conference
Monday 19 November 2007

Children Now, in partnership with the Anti-Bullying Alliance, will present a half-day conference to open Anti-Bullying Week 2007. The conference will provide an opportunity to hear the latest research and strategies delivered by key figures working on anti-bullying policy and guidance. Speakers will include Paul Ennals, Graham Robb, Ben Summerskill, Robin Richardson, Will Gardner, and Helen Wheatley. This is a must-attend conference for all those working to make safe, positive environments that are free from bullying for children and young people.

Venue: Thistle Marble Arch, Central London

Cost: Please see www.antibullyingconference.com

Contact: Email: conferences@haymarket.com Tel: 020 8267 4011

Website: www.antibullyingconference.com

Information about regional and national events associated with Anti-Bullying Week 2007 are being added to the ABA website as soon as they are available and can be found [here](#). Please use the [online form](#) to tell us about your event.

Contact Us

If you have a national conference, event or training course that you would like advertised in the next ABA e bulletin, please send details to Sandra Fowler (contact details below). Copy deadline: 27 September 2007.

This e bulletin is produced by Sandra Fowler, Information Officer, NCB Library & Information Service. Tel: +44 (0)20 7843 1901, Email: sfowler@ncb.org.uk

The NCB Library has a comprehensive and multidisciplinary collection of books, journals and grey literature on all aspects of children and young people's social welfare, health and education. It offers a wide range of subscription services and publications, including Highlights; Children in the News; ChildData; Childstats; ChildData Abstracts; Conferences & Events. For further information contact Tel: +44 (0)20 7843 6008 or Email: library@ncb.org.uk

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