

Scottish Advisory Group for Relationships and Behaviour in Schools Report (SAGRABIS)

This year the focus for the group has been to:-

- **launch of a new research survey of Behaviour in schools (Feb 2016).** This is a follow-on survey from the 2012 survey conducted by IPSOS-MORI. This survey will include a large scale quantitative survey of teachers, support staff and head teachers views on behaviour in schools which will be followed up by a smaller qualitative survey to gain greater insight into highlighted areas of concern. SSTA promoted the survey among members and encouraged those asked to respond. The quantitative part of the research has concluded, the qualitative part will take place in the late 2016, and the report on the overall findings will be produced in spring 2017.
- **draft refreshed 'Respect for ALL' document produced.** This document is being redrafted in light of changes in legislation and policy including UNCRC, Equalities Act (2010), Children and Young Peoples Act (2014), NIF, Scottish Attainment Challenge, Building the Ambition and recent research. The group are currently promoting a national approach towards anti-bullying which would stretch across all settings involving children and young people. In support of this, and the redrafting process, a SAGRABIS sub-group has consulted partners such as COSLA, ADES, CELCIS, ENABLE, CYPCS, Police, NSPCC, Stonewall, LGBT Youth, Sport Scotland, trade unions, and practitioners/parents/children and YP in a series of practitioner's events.
- **support the work of Respectme.** The organisation helps local authorities, prison services etc. draft policies on anti-bullying. They also provide training and resources for schools and organisations working with children and young people. Respectme are producing a 4-minute video which will be available on their website and GLOW.
- **draft refreshed 'Included, Engaged and Involved Part 2' document.** This document is being redrafted in the context of implementation of GIRFEC, Children and Young Peoples Act (2014), NIF, Scottish Attainment Challenge, Building the Ambition and recent research. The document will be streamlined and should provide guidance to support local authorities in the prevention and managing of school exclusion. In support of this and the redrafting process a SAGRABIS sub-group has consulted partners such as Policy advisers, COSLA, ADES, CELCIS, ASPEP, trade unions, and local authorities.

Outside of the above areas of focus SAGRABIS also provides on-going support for a number of other priorities including promoting training in Restorative Practices and nurturing. This training has generally been focussed in pilot areas. It is hoped that with positive impact evidence becoming available and further funding much of this training can be provided across all scottish schools in some form (practical, guidance documents, or electronic training methods).

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Scottish Advisory Group for Relationships and Behaviour in Schools

(SAGRABIS)

Summary of Remit and Aims

The remit of the SAGRABIS group, which covers all staff (teaching, support staff and those from partner organisations) and all children/young people in Scottish schools, is to provide advice to national and local government and other relevant stakeholders on matters relating to:

- promoting positive relationships and behaviour (including anti-bullying) in schools and establishments for all children young people in order to create a positive ethos and climate for learning.
- the programme of work set out in *Better Relationships, Better Learning, Better Behaviour 2013* and any future updates.
- the Behaviour in Scottish Schools Research
- the impact of social media on relationships and behaviour in schools, following on from the publication of *Guidance on developing policies to promote the safe and responsible use of mobile technology in schools*
- promoting the important role of support staff, including consideration of innovative practice to include such staff in whole school approaches to promoting positive relationships and behaviour
- assessment of the Children's Rights agenda on policies and practice to promote positive relationships and behaviour in schools
- the link between wellbeing and deprivation and the impact on relationships and behaviour in schools
- promote approaches and strategies which help to improve outcome for children and young people

The group aims to:

- provide leadership and consensus on effective strategies to promote positive relationships and support staff to manage more challenging behaviour in schools and establishments.
- provide advice and support for local authorities and schools on how to develop and implement those strategies. This will include consideration of how best to identify and disseminate innovative practice across Scotland.
- individually and collectively promote: restorative practices, nurturing, and solution orientated approaches as whole school approaches; anti-bullying policies and practice to contribute to social and emotional wellbeing; and social and emotional wellbeing programmes for staff and parents.

The work of the group is supported by: Scottish Government Support and Wellbeing Unit, Education Scotland's Rights, Support and Wellbeing Team, RespectMe, COSLA, ADES, National Parent Forum Scotland, GTCS and trade unions.