

MEDIATION



MEDIATION PLUS - THE MEDIATION SERVICE FOR EASTBOURNE & WEALDEN

PEER+ Peer Mediation Programme for Schools

Programme Outline

Introductory presentation to target year group(s)

Two trainers from Mediation Plus will deliver a light-hearted presentation to introduce the concept of peer mediation. We provide application forms, a 'job description' and sample interview questions if the school intends to conduct a selection process to recruit the group of mediators to receive the training.

Presentation to staff

The presentation outlines the principles of mediation, explores the mediation process, discusses the benefits to the school, and how the peer mediation service will run in the school. Excerpts from a video: 'Peer Mediation: Training for Young People' is also shown.

Workshop training to 12-16 pupils: Year 4, Year 5 or Year 6 pupils (or combination)

6 x 3 hour morning workshops delivered by two trainers from Mediation Plus (e.g.: 9.10am-12.10pm).

Workshop 1

- Introductions, circle time & game
- Ground rules
- Mediation & citizenship
- What is mediation?
- Introduction to the mediation process
- Ourselves & our conflicts
- How do we respond to conflict?
- Exploring our own conflicts & feelings
- Valuing ourselves
- Mediation demonstration
- Mediation practice
- Feel Good Finish

Workshop 2

- Circle time & game
- Review of Workshop 1
- What does anger look like?
- Red flags: what makes us angry?
- Anger icebergs
- Making anger safe
- Active listening
- Helpful questioning techniques
- Identifying 'Facts, Feelings, Issues'
- Feel Good Finish
- Homework

Workshop 3

- Circle time & game
- Recap of Workshop 2
- Working together as mediators
- Summarising & Acknowledgement
- Mediation practice
- Making the process safe
- Co-operation game
- Understanding different points of view
- 'Little Red/Big Grey' scenario
- Feel Good Finish
- Homework

Workshop 4

- Circle time & game
- Recap of Workshop 3
- Problem solving & co-operation
- Checklist for mediators
- Positions & interests
- Mediation role-play 'fish bowl' style
- Let's let off steam
- Brainstorming to generate solutions
- Conflict in schools: the importance of compromise
- Mediation practice
- Feel Good Finish
- Homework

Workshop 5

- Circle time & game
- Recap of Workshop 4
- Review the stages in the process & questioning techniques
- Looking behind people's words
- Mediation practice
- The peer mediation process working in the school
- Paperwork & forms
- Feel Good Finish
- Homework

Workshop 6

- Circle time & game
- Recap of Workshop 5
- How has training helped you?
- What if...? Difficulties that may arise for mediators
- Dealing with difficult behaviours in mediation
- Real mediation: a 'live' conflict
- Let's let off steam
- Peer Mediator identity & promotion
- How to launch the service in school:
- Assembly presentation preparation
- Feel Good Finish
- Evaluation & certificates

Peer Mediation Launch: assembly presentation (with parents present)

Trainers assist peer mediators to present peer mediation to the rest of the school in assembly. Pupils made aware how scheme will operate, where to go and how they will know who are the peer mediators. Whole school approach is taken and appointed staff monitor scheme and supervise peer mediators.

Follow-up and support

Trainers return to follow up on the programme and support the appointed staff with any problems or issues which have arisen.

PEER+ *light* – Refresher Peer Mediation

A new programme for schools who have already delivered the full range of PEER+ workshops and who want to refresh or top-up training for existing or new Peer Mediators. In conjunction with your staff teams, we create three bespoke three hour workshops combining the elements from the six workshops above you want to deliver.

For more information and to discuss your specific requirements, please contact Joan or Clive at Mediation Plus:

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News

Scheme helps kids sort out disputes

by Chris Eyte
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CHILDREN will sort out disputes under a radical scheme being renewed at Park Mead Primary School in Hailsham. Years five and six have been taking part in peer mediation skills workshops run by Mediation+, a charity based in Western Road. Pupils will work in pairs, once trained, to help other youngsters in the school deal with issues. They will sit them down in private sessions and talk about what happened. Tracey Hunter, manager of Mediation+, said the issues talked about would be 'low level' stuff. Anything more serious would be referred to teachers by the trained pupils, she said. She said: "It frees up teachers and teaching assistants. "Pupils who have been arguing can sort out the problems themselves. "The peer mediators would go to a private place with the students, and keep safe and confidential what is discussed. "They are trained not to talk about the problems with other pupils in the school." Typical issues to be mediated would include friendship break-ups, not being included in games and name-calling. The scheme was first set up at the school two years ago but new mediators are now needed. Tracey Hunter said the scheme involved a 'whole school approach.' She said: "The children know that if certain things crop up they are to ask for help from adults. "But it is run by the children for the children. "The mediators ask what happened and how their peers are feeling, and what would make it better." Confidential records will be taken of the mediation sessions, briefly recording issues dealt with by peer mediators. Teachers will then deal with these issues as themes in school assemblies. Parents' week is being held by the Family and Parenting Institute from October 19 to 25. In tune with the main theme this year - 'the changing face of families' - Mediation+ reminds residents of its services. A 'Time 2 Talk' mediation service is offered free-of-charge and involves two trained adult mediators working with families. Tracey Hunter said: "They help the family to reach its own best solutions to the problem." To find out more call: 01323 442781 or email: mediation.plus@yahoo.co.uk.



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Children take part in peer mediation workshops