



Children Affected by Domestic Abuse Conference

Friday 6th March 2020

Stockport Town Hall



Welcome

Chris McLoughlin

Director of Children Service

Agenda

- ▶ 9.00 - 9.30am: Arrival and Refreshments
- ▶ 9.30 - 9.45am: Welcome
- ▶ 9.45 - 10.45am: Stockport Project Insights
- ▶ 10.45 - 11.15am: A Survivors Story
- ▶ 11.15 - 11.30am: Break
- ▶ 11.30 - 12.15pm: Stockport's Next Steps: Setting our Priorities for Domestic Abuse
- ▶ 12.15 - 12:30pm: Opportunity for Questions & Answers from Morning Session
- ▶ 12.30 - 1.15pm: Lunch
- ▶ 1.15 - 2.30pm: AFTA Thought Drama-based Learning
- ▶ 2.30 - 2.45pm: Break
- ▶ 2.45 - 3.15pm: AFTA Thought Drama-based Learning
- ▶ 3.15 - 3.25pm: Feedback Session
- ▶ 3:25 - 3:30pm: Close



Caring Dads

In Stockport

Erykah Blackburn
IDVA Service Manager
(Stockport Without Abuse)

What is it and who is it for?

The Caring Dads course works with fathers to change patterns of abusive behaviours, increase fathers' awareness of child-centred fathering, and to promote respectful co-parenting with children's mothers. Caring Dads is not a parenting course, but is designed to meet the needs of fathers who have been abusive to their children's mother, through the lens of them being a "caring" dad. The goals of a Caring Dad's group are to improve fathers' relationship with their child and family, and to help them to better understand children's development and needs.

- Fathers are eligible if they have been **physically or emotionally abusive towards their children's mother**, or if they have separated, continue to have a hostile relationship with the children's mother.
- The course is suitable for **medium to high risk perpetrators**.
- The father must be having **weekly contact** with their child/children
- The father has to have a **willingness to undertake the course** and **consent** must be gained by the Social Worker to make a referral.
- The father does not have to be the child's biological father, can be a **step-father**.
- Importantly, the children **must be open to Social Care** and the case cannot close while the father is participating in the course.
- The course is **not to assess contact arrangements or living arrangement**
- The course is **not suitable for fathers who have severe alcohol or substance misuse** – i.e. they cannot partake in the course if they are likely to attend under the influence
- The course is not suitable where there are concerns that a father has **sexually abused their child/children**

It's a 17 week course and usually round 8-10 men attend. Children and mother's do not attend. Men give feedback to each other and share experiences of fathering. They are expected to complete a short homework assignment during the week.

Mother Contact

- The first component of the Caring dads programme is group intervention with the fathers, but the second component of Caring Dads is contact with the children's mother.
- Outreach support via telephone contact will be offered to the children's mothers while the men are participating in the course.
- All caretaking mother's of the men's children are contacted by the Caring Das programme on a minimum of three occasions – once as soon as possible after a man begins the program, once midway through his involvement, and again at the end of the program.
- Mothers are provided with detailed information about the Caring Dads program, its aims and content, and to help her come to a realistic understanding of the potential outcomes of the intervention.
- Although mother and child safety is the main rationale for having mother contact, it is also about working in a holistic way to include and empower the mother throughout the process.

Referral Pathway

Referral Meeting

- A referral meeting takes place between the facilitators and referrer.

Intake Meeting

- Purpose of the intake meeting is to gather information from the Dads themselves. This includes information about their children, children's mother/their partner, their living situation and involvement with social care and criminal justice systems. Its important to ask why they think they have been referred onto the programme and assess their openness to the course.
- A critical goal of an intake assessment is to make a meaningful connection between the facilitators and the Dad that has been referred.
- Part of the intake assessment is to explain about the programme in a bit more detail and give the Dad the opportunity to ask questions, explain that the Social Worker will be updated regularly about their progress and that any concerns will need to be shared, talk about mother contact, and talk about the final report.

What are the goals and sessions

4 x Goals and 17 x sessions

Goal 1: To develop sufficient trust and motivation to engage men in the process of examining their fathering.

Goal 2: To increase men's awareness and application of child centred fathering

Goal 3: To increase men's awareness of, and responsibility for, abusive and neglectful fathering and its impact on children

Goal 4: Rebuilding trust with children and planning for the future

COURSE SESSIONS

- Session 1** – Orientation – programme overview and group rules. Exploring “What is a dad?”
- Session 2** – Considering fathering – completion of genograms. Looking at family experiences and patterns.
- Session 3** - Developing discrepancy – creation of goals. Continuing to develop discrepancy.
- Session 4** – Child-centred fathering – Looking at the continuum of parenting behaviour and understanding child development
- Session 5** – Building relationships with or children – looking at relationship building challenges. “How well do I know my child?”
- Session 6** – Listening to, praising, and playing with your children
- Session 7** – Fathers as part of families – Setting a good example and appreciation of my children’s mother
- Session 8** – Eliminating barriers to better relationships – the connections between thoughts, feelings and actions
- Session 9** – Recognising unhealthy, abusive, and neglectful fathering behaviours. Looking at the other end of the continuum (child maltreatment)
- Session 10** – Changing unhealthy, abusive and neglectful fathering behaviours –review/establish a concrete behavioural goal/promoting change
- Session 11** – How am I responding to my children’s needs? Alternatives to parent centred and abusive behaviours/problem solving for parents
- Session 12** – Relationship with my children’s mother – How children are affected by witnessing abuse. Problem solving for parents.
- Session 13** – Problem solving in difficult situations – what children learn from controlling fathering. Problem solving for parents.
- Session 14** – Decreasing denial and minimisation – Shame and secrecy. Problem solving for parents.
- Session 15** – Rebuilding trust and healing – Taking responsibility for the past and moving into the future
- Session 16** – What about discipline – Alternatives to abusive and parent centred behaviours and defining discipline
- Session 17** – Wrapping up – review of the main concepts and getting support from others

Case management to ensure child safety

The third component of the Caring dads programme is about working together with the referrer to ensure child safety and well-being. Throughout the course, the facilitators keep in regular contact with the Social Worker and continually help feed into assessing risk for a child.

Collaborative practice includes:

- Jointly assess and monitor changes in men's abusive behaviours
- Have a strong model of professional communication and openly sharing information throughout the intervention
- Inclusion of the "voice" of the child
- Discuss failed referrals, absences or failures in engagement
- Ensure that father's goals align with those of the professionals working with the children

End of course report

At the end of the program the facilitators write a final report in respect of each of the Dads. In the reports facilitators focus on direct examples of men's accountability, responsibility, attitudes, and behaviour. Clear and detailed case notes of men's progress throughout the session are helpful in writing the final report.

The reports include a summary of why each man was referred to the group, a description of his contact with the children, his record of attendance and participation, and his progress through the programme.

In considering men's progress, the report makes reference to the major goals of the Caring Dads programme, in particular, commenting on specific Dads progress (or lack of) towards 1) engagement and openness to change, 2) development of centred- fathering, 3) accountability for abuse, 4) ability to rebuild a trusting relationship with their children. Finally, facilitators will make recommendations about other services that may be helpful for the father.

Post course support

- 1-1 therapeutic input where needed/appropriate
- Telephone support and 1-1 sessions offered
- All dads signposted and given information for further support services around mental health.
- IDVA service have offered support to mums throughout and they continue to do so.

Outcomes

- Group of 10...5 father's successfully completed the course
- Drop out due to legitimate reasons - relocated/work commitments
- Cases have stepped down from CP to TAC and from TAC to closure
- During the course one of the dads created the catch phrase "If you can't talk it out, walk it out", fathers referred back to this during and post the sessions.
- Fathers said the course allowed them to have a space to talk where they did not feel judged and the group provided an outlet for them to talk about their problems
- Some felt that having a smaller group helped in terms of everybody being heard and how the group gelled together
- Overall, they all found the course beneficial
- Some of the dads expressed some anxiety about the course coming to an end and sustaining changes they have begun to make.

Next Steps

Further course to be held

- The pilot was a very small cohort but some extremely positive outcomes.. Real evidence of impact will come when further course's have been delivered.
- Wrap around support for father's is imperative
- Relationship and engagement are key
- Course needs to be offered in the evening as well as in the daytime.

Comments from mums!

- *They are getting on much better and x has developed some good strategies in managing the children's behaviour"*
- *"He has always been a good dad but he is now more focused. We have enjoyed a nice family holiday"*
- *"We are all very proud of him"*
- *"He is a little lost as the Caring Dads and his community Service have now come to an end and he had been enjoying attending them"*
- *"We are still together and things are good. There has been an improvement in him since starting the course and we get on better. We can now parent the children together better"*
- *"Him being off alcohol has made a massive difference to how they get on"*
- *"He is a difficult character so it is hard for me to say if he has changed"*
- *"We are no longer in a relationship but they have daily contact as he comes to see the children everyday"*
- *"Communication between the two of us has improved and there has been a reduction in arguments"*

Feedback from a father...

'I have learnt a lot because you have to listen to both sides and compromise and talk about it when things are calm"... "I was initially on edge, as I didn't know anything but Jemma and Erykah were brilliant and we shared our problems" ... "I have learnt a lot this has made me a better person"

A Father's Journey



Naz Ghodrati, Registered MBACP , AIP

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Y.P.V.A - Safe Choices



- **Domestic violence and abuse is:** Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, **violence or abuse**, between **those aged 16 or over** who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass but is not limited to the following types of abuse: • psychological • physical • sexual • financial • emotional Controlling behaviour
- Young People in abusive and unsafe relationships from the **age of 13 to 18**.
- Adopting new YP screening and risk assessment tools.
- Offering YP Centred interventions

Mapping the Journey of YP



Significant evidence of good practice

- Clear and simple referral pathways.
- Timely identification and referral
- Clarity of support plans, joint work and boundaries of specialism.
- Generally a good level of communication amongst the professionals involved.
- Exceptionally good communication and clarity when Aspire and Education were involved.

Findings of the Project

- 17 of 24 young victims grew up, witnessing domestic violence and abuse in their family homes.
- 8 of the 24 victims were victims of CSE.
- The abuse profile was very similar to high risk adult victims.
- First disclosures of 5 incidents of rapes and 8 SV.
- The length of the engagement was lot longer.

New Learnings

- Violent, volatile and high risk first relationships are common the age group.
- Unrecorded and uncaptured DVA incidents between the ages of 16 and 17 is an area that lacks an established methodical approach .
- In some education settings, the communications between the referrers ,the safeguarding leads and the YPVA needed to improve.
- Universal services for 15-18 year olds are highly significant when the risk is not meeting the MARAC threshold.

Going Forward

- How this learning is going to inform our strategy ?
- Remembering how DVA could impact a YP's life and to make a mindful decision to incorporate this into our practice.
- Don't forget boys in screening and support
- Stay hopeful !

Maternity and Hospital IDVA

Stockport Without Abuse

Stockport NHS Foundation Trust

Rebecca Oatway Named Midwife

Janet Willocks Specialist Nurse

Vulnerable Children's Team

Lily Blundell Maternity & Hospital
IDVA

Service Provision Prior to IDVA

- Referrals sporadic / limited from midwifery
- Lack of confidence and knowledge from clinical and acute staff
- Lack of support for staff from specialist IDVA services

Establishment of the role

- Partnership working between SWA and Named Midwife Safeguarding & Vulnerable Groups
- Based in maternity
- Visibility (phased role out)
- Mapping
- Training/ awareness (signposting)
- Policy
- MARAC attendance

Achievements

- DATA
- Comments from staff/ clients
- IDVA attending MARAC for maternity cases

Forward planning

- Increased Visibility Acute & Community (Health)
- NCDV partnership
- DASH training & safety planning
- Peer Support

Limitations

- Only 1 IDVA
- Funding
- Home visits (lone working)
- Out of hours
- Posters



Stockport Safeguarding Children Partnership SSCP

Multi-Agency Training Programme updates



Clare Wood-**Clare's Law** and DVDS

Clare Wood murdered in 2009

Led to Clare's law coming into effect 2014



Coercive Control Conviction



March 2017-First man to be convicted under Section 76 of the Serious Crime Act 2015 in Greater Manchester

Coercive Control Conviction

UK's first conviction for coercive control involving a female offender.



Jordan Worth (left) was jailed for seven-and-a-half years for coercive control and violence against her former boyfriend Alex Skeel

Domestic abuse stats November 2019

- ▶ According to the Crime Survey for England and Wales year ending March 2019, an estimated 5.7% of adults (2.4 million) experienced domestic abuse in the last year.
- ▶ The police recorded a total of 1,316,800 domestic abuse-related incidents and crimes¹ in the year ending March 2019.
- ▶ Of these, 746,219 were recorded as domestic abuse-related crimes, an increase of 24% from the previous year.
- ▶ The police recorded 166,472 domestic abuse-related stalking and harassment offences in the year ending March 2019⁴, accounting for just over one-fifth (22%) of all domestic abuse-related crimes in that year
- ▶ 46,788 DA related crimes recorded by GMP year 2018-19

(Office of National Statistics 2019)

Some Stats relating to The impact of domestic abuse on children and young people

- ▶ One in seven (14.2%) children and young people under the age of 18 will have lived with domestic violence at some point in their childhood.
- ▶ 61.7% of women in refuge 2017 had children (aged under 18) with them
- ▶ Between January 2005 and August 2015 (inclusive) 19 children and two women were killed by perpetrators of domestic abuse in circumstances relating to child contact
- ▶ Research published by Cafcass in 2017, in partnership with **Women's Aid** found that more than two thirds of the cases in the sample involved allegations of domestic abuse, yet in 23% of these cases, unsupervised contact was ordered at the first hearing.

(www.womensaid.org.uk)

Domestic Abuse: Basic awareness All Age

Domestic abuse: Training Programme

- ▶ Domestic Abuse: Basic Awareness all age including MARAC DASH and S-DASH Free to attend 3 hour course covering:
- ▶ Relevant legislation and guidance- Coercive Control, Stalking
- ▶ How to recognise domestic abuse and its different forms
- ▶ How to respond and ask questions safely
- ▶ How to complete DASH (risk assessment).MARAC process and referral, stalking protection orders and S-DASH
- ▶ Book on via learning pool.
- ▶ Over 200 practitioners trained since October 2019 + 54 from TPA-Lisa Wilkie. Sessions planned for all police officers in 2020
- ▶ Developed by DA champions from partner agencies-SWA, adults **and children's services, ASPIRE, NHS, CAHMS, Stockport Homes,** Pennine & WFD.

Further Training

- ▶ 2 full days over the last year with the DA all age basic awareness course plus sessions from Tony Richardson of National Centre for Domestic Violence (NCDV) & National Probation Service (NPS) on Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) process and agency duty to co-operate.
- ▶ Impact Of domestic abuse upon children. This course has run twice a year over the last few years, facilitated by the multi-agency training pool members including ASPIRE service lead, Educational psychologist and health rep.
- ▶ Honour Based Violence & Forced Marriage Training sessions run by Project Choice. Next session is 12/3/2020, fully booked. Project Choice have worked closely with Stockport in providing training guidance and support to victims of HBV.
- ▶ Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) awareness training, run by Dr Peggy Mulongo, director of NESTAC/The Guardian project a Manchester organisation providing support to victims of FGM. Next session 1/7/20.

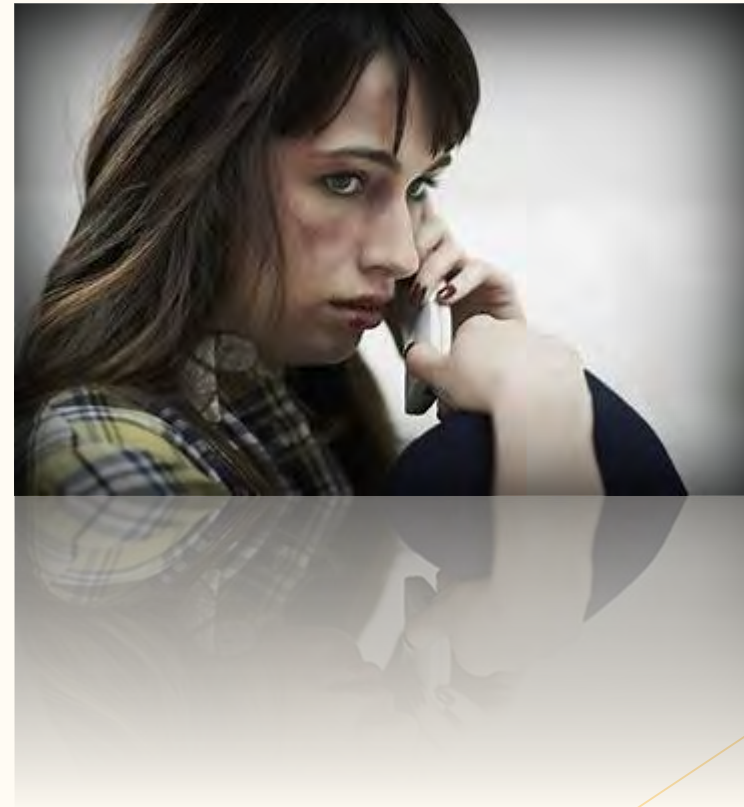
Stockport So Called Honour Based Violence & Forced Marriage Strategy 2019-21. Once Chance Rule!

So-called 'Honour' Based Violence/Abuse and Forced Marriage Strategy 2019-21



One Chance Rule

- ▶ ONE CHANCE RULE-MAKE SURE YOU GET AS MUCH INFO FROM THE VICTIM.
- ▶ DO NOT CONTACT FAMILY MEMBERS



Useful links in the HBV strategy

- ▶ *Ted Talk video Fighting forced marriages and honour based abuse / Jasvinder Sanghera*

“Cultural Acceptance does not mean accepting the unacceptable...it is not part of my religion or culture to abuse anybody and professionals need to wake up and own that as a fact” Jasvinder Sanghera

- ▶ *Award winning, powerful documentary about the honour killing of Banaz Mahmod*
- ▶ *DASH risk assessment questions*



Stockport Safeguarding Children Partnership SSCP

Multi-Agency Training Programme updates



Operation Encompass

Supporting children through key adults



Links to access training and useful links

- ▶ www.safeguardingchildreninstockport.org.uk
- ▶ www.safeguardingadultsinstockport.org.uk
- ▶ [Learning pool to book on training](#)
- ▶ www.stockportdaf.org.uk
- ▶ www.greatermanchesterscb.proceduresonline
- ▶ www.stockportwithoutabuse.org.uk

PROJECT 4 - THERAPEUTIC ACTIVITY

DOMESTIC ABUSE EDUCATION RESOURCE PROJECT

ORGANISED BY ROSIE RODWELL

FACILITATOR - EMILY NORMAN

CO-FACILITATOR - BIANCA PENCZ

ANIMATION LEAD – TAMZIN FORSTER

**THE AIM OF THE DOMESTIC EDUCATION RESOURCE
PROJECT IS TO PROVIDE A CREATIVE ACTIVITY FOR
YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY
DOMESTIC ABUSE.**

PILOT PROJECT LOCATION: WERNETH SCHOOL

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Provide the young people with a better understanding of what domestic abuse is, how to spot the signs of abusive behaviour, it's impact and how to seek support/build resilience.
- Offer a safe inclusive space for young people to explore their thoughts and feelings as well as meet other peers who have had similar experiences.
- Help the young people create a stop motion animation video that encapsulates some of key messages that they have learnt and that they wish to share with a chosen audience.
- Build young people's confidence and self esteem by allowing them to learn a new creative skill.
- Create a video that can be shown to other young people or professionals to help promote an understanding of a young person's experience of domestic abuse.

Organisation

- Target around **5 to 10 young people in Years 7, 8 and 9 (11-15 year olds)** within one school who are known to have **experienced domestic abuse**.
- Liaise with **school based support** (e.g. safeguarding lead and school social worker) if any **concerns or worries are raised**.
- **10 x 1 hour after school sessions and provide food, drink and transport home** for young people if needed.

Session 1 – Introduction's and ice breakers

Session 2 – What is a healthy v unhealthy relationship?

Session 3 – Myth busting, the impact of relationship abuse and staying safe

Session 4 – “A Recipe for Resilience” and the importance of support networks.

Session 5 – Recap of learning sessions 1-4 and introducing stop motion animation

Session 6 – Story boarding

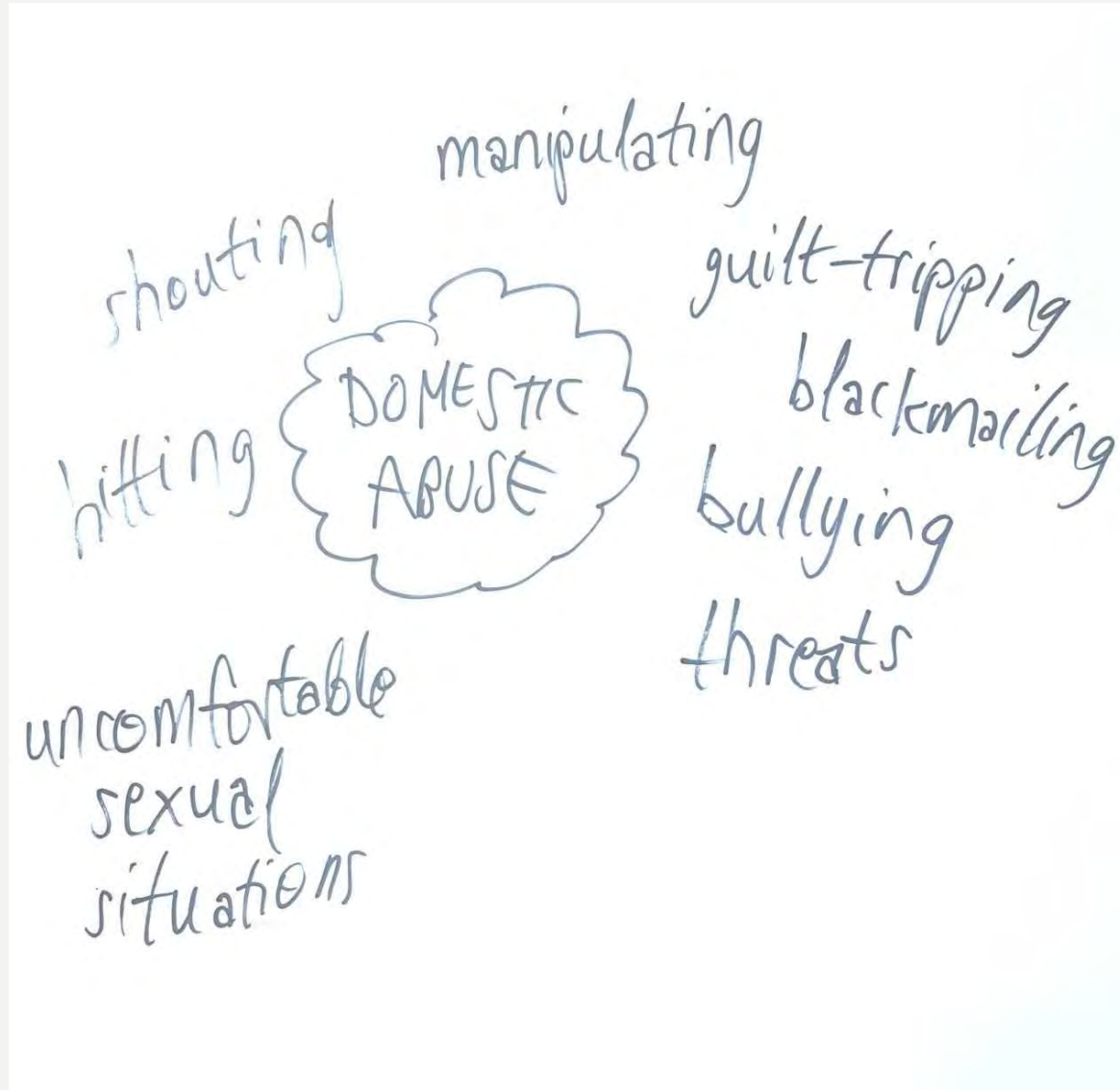
Session 7 – Creating resources and finalising storyboard

Session 8 – Filming and animating

Session 9 - Filming and animating

Session 10 – Watch animation, discuss learning and final evaluation.

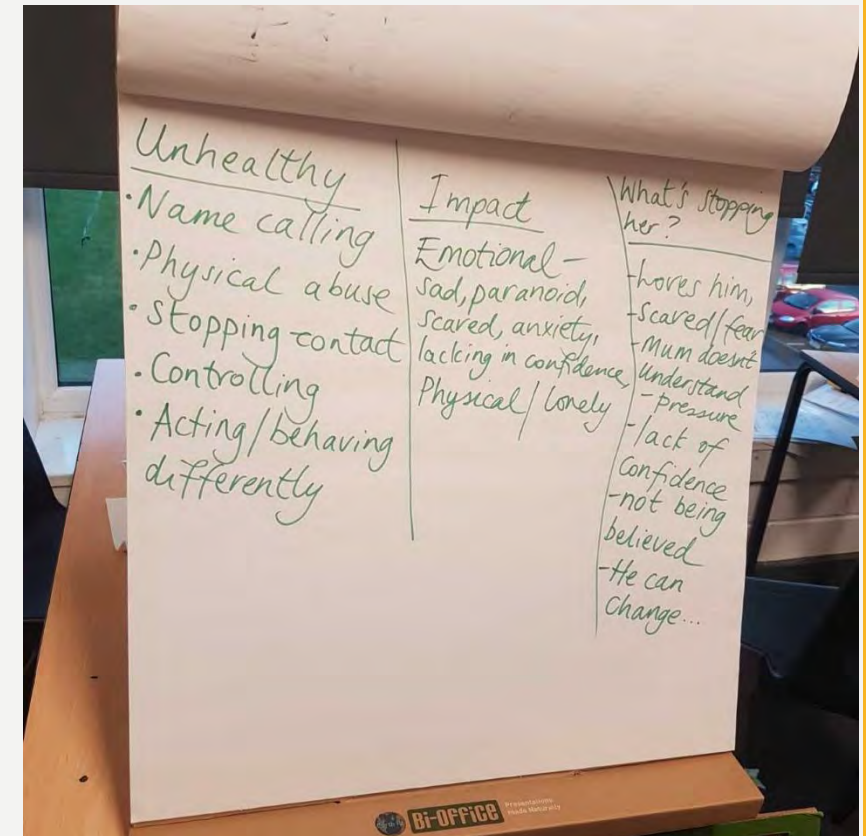
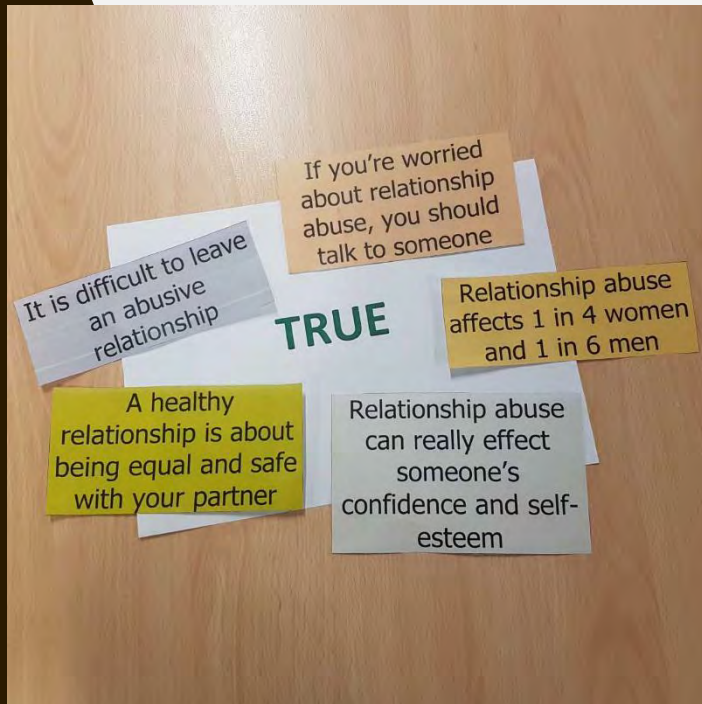
Session I



Session 2



Session 3



SESSION 4



Session 5



LEARNING SO FAR...

- Space - importance of a suitable space for group work
- Preparation – knowing the background of the young people in the cohort and setting up a meet and greet with young people and parents prior.
- Attendance – may be higher if done during school time rather than after school.
- Group dynamics – consideration of any previous personal conflicts or large age gaps.

OUTCOMES

- Currently we have done 6 sessions therefore we can not give definitive outcomes.
- WEMWBS – We have used a wellbeing indicator at the beginning of the project and will use it again at the end of the project.
- Detailed evaluation interview with the group in last session to understand what we can improve and the benefits as they see them.
- Feedback – We will seek feedback from school on any incidents, missing episodes, or general concerns about presentation.
- Session logs – We have written up sessional observations that include group dynamics, any changes in behaviour and any concerns.

OTHER GROUP BASED INTERVENTIONS IN STOCKPORT



Workshops and group work for Primary schools.

Workshops are classroom based (KS2) and group work are for children who have experienced domestic abuse (KS1 and KS2)



8 week programme for young people in Year 8 and Year 9 to explore healthy relationships, consent, safe sex, body image and online safety. Reach provides a safe and inclusive space for young people to talk openly.

RELATIONSHIPS 101

Created and facilitated with Bianca Pencz (Young Person's IDVA), "Relationships 101" is a 6 week programme exploring relationship dynamics, gender roles, power and control and building resilience for young people aged 16-18.

emilynorman@stockportwithoutabuse.org.uk

07976863675

Claire Osment Chairperson - OWLS A Survivor's Story



If you are going through
Domestic Abuse

Speak out

There is help out there
and you don't have to go through it alone...



✉ info@owlsgroup.co.uk ☎ 0754 813 4670
📘 [owlsgroupstockport](#) 🐦 @OWLSgroup
📷 [owlsgroupstockport](#)

Buddy System

We offer a free buddy system for when you don't want to go to appointments on your own.
i.e. doctors, court, police station and anywhere else you don't want to go by yourself!

Coffee mornings

Join us for peer support, advice, meet new friends, free use of laptops and free refreshments.

Every Wednesday 10.30-12.30 | Contact us for more details

1-1 Peer Support Sessions

We offer one to one peer support sessions with our volunteers who will help you identify goals and how to move forward in whatever way suits you.

Freedom Programme

This programme helps women identify behaviours and understand tactics used by abusive partners. It also helps improve self-esteem, confidence and create a peer support network.



Domestic Abuse Strategic Priorities...

- ▶ Focus on work with Black Asian and Minority Ethnic, and LGBTQ+ Communities.
- ▶ Engagement with the wider Community.
- ▶ Effective work and support with Perpetrator.
- ▶ Stalking & Harassment.
- ▶ Education and Support in Schools.
- ▶ Provision of Safe and Supportive Services.
- ▶ Understanding and acting on the experience of Survivors and the Voice of the Child.