

THE EXPECT RESPECT

EDUCATION TOOLKIT



Every year 3/4 million children live in fear of domestic violence...

...and this includes some of the children and young people in YOUR school. Domestic violence affects children from every background, race and class. You may not know about it, but it doesn't mean that it's not happening. The damaging effects of domestic violence can be long lasting and impact on every area of their lives.

Living in a home where there is domestic violence can be very stressful for children and young people and it affects their health and education in so many ways – they may be truanting to try and protect their mum, they may be tired and late for school, they may be avoiding PE as they have bruises on their arms.

Raising awareness about domestic abuse is not just to help those who are directly affected now – young people often form their first relationships at school and sadly, without better prevention, in the future 1 in 4 of your female pupils will find themselves in an abusive relationship.

What schools and teachers can do

In a safe, structured, learning environment schools can:

- model and promote healthy, non-violent relationships;
- support children to seek help and safety;
- help challenge and prevent abusive behaviours.

Women's Aid is here to help

We know that domestic violence often isn't easy to talk about, so we have worked with teachers to produce easy-to-use resources: our new online education toolkit, 'Expect Respect':

- age-appropriate lesson plans for every year from Reception to Year 13;
- clear learning outcomes linked to Early Years/ National Curriculum, SEAL, and Every Child Matters;
- supporting website www.thehideout.org.uk with additional interactive activities for children and young people;
- supporting information and resources for teachers including regional training seminars.

The Expect Respect Education Toolkit is free to download from www.womensaid.org.uk.

Why are we doing this?

Because we believe that by working with children and young people now, we will reduce the amount of domestic violence in the future. We want to support pupils who are currently living with abuse, either at home or in their very first relationships.

If we act together now, we can stop domestic violence in the future.