



## The ChildLine Schools Service

Research undertaken by the NSPCC has shown that the majority of children who contact ChildLine for advice, information and support are over 11 years old. However, we know that the majority of children subject to a child protection plan are under the age of 11.



The ChildLine Schools Service will focus on primary school children from age 7 -11 years, with a particular focus on 9 -11 year olds initially. Our aim is to visit every primary school in the UK at least every two years. By focusing on our main objectives as outlined below, we aim to reach every primary school in the UK and start a societal change that will bring about a long term reduction in child cruelty.

### Objectives

- To ensure children have an understanding of abuse in all its forms, including bullying, and an ability to recognise the signs of abuse.
- To ensure children know how to protect themselves from all forms of abuse.
- To make them aware of how to get help and sources of help (including ChildLine).

### How is this achieved?

The schools programme is initially aimed at Year 5 and Year 6 pupils and consists of an assembly style presentation followed by workshops in individual classes. The materials have been developed to ensure age appropriateness and are delivered with respect and sensitivity for the children. Accompanying materials are also provided to reinforce learning.

The **assembly** style presentation to the whole year group(s) lasts for approximately 30 minutes and aims to provide the following:

- A video clip is played to give the children some information about ChildLine and to explain what happens when someone contacts ChildLine.
- An introduction to the subject of abuse covering physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, neglect and bullying. This is achieved by conducting a “sack of worries” activity and encouraging children to identify a wide range of issues that may cause a child to feel worried, upset, anxious or frightened.
- Identify a range of sources of help and support.
- Reinforcing the message that children have the right to be safe, to be listened to and to be able to find help and support.

After the visit, pupils are provided with an activities booklet containing a crossword, word search and acrostic activities which reinforce the key messages from the presentation.

The **workshop** is delivered to individual classes approximately 1 to 2 weeks after the presentation and lasts for approximately one hour. The content of the workshop is as follows:

- Recap on the learning from the presentation.
- The class will then be presented with a range of statements which they are asked to agree or disagree with.
- Working in smaller groups pupils explore and discuss their understanding of “good touching and wrong touching”. Then, using a series of written statements, groups consider different situations and behaviours in the context of helping to understand possible signs of sexual abuse.
- Using a case study on neglect; working in small groups, pupils are invited to explore the feelings, behaviour and impact that may surround a situation involving neglect. Class discussion follows which enables a wider consideration of the emotional context of such a situation and linking this to other aspects of abuse.
- Pupils develop their own “Buddy kit”. The Buddy kit is designed to help children protect themselves by identifying their own personal network of sources of help and support.
- Reinforcing the message that children have the right to be safe, to be listened to and to be able to find help and support.

After the workshop pupils are provided with a finger flexor and wordsearch to reinforce learning in a fun and colourful way.

For further information please contact:

**Candia Crosfield**  
South East London Area Co-ordinator  
ChildLine Schools Service

Mob: 07795 970594

Email: [candia.crosfield@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:candia.crosfield@nspcc.org.uk)

