



Bullying in the Digital Age The Challenge for Schools in 2014

Saturday 29th March 2014

Radisson Blu Royal Hotel, Golden Lane, Dublin 8

€145.00 (early bird, before 28th of February 2014)

€190.00 full fee

Who should attend?

School principals and deputy principals; teachers; technology & IT teachers; school counsellors, members of Boards of Management, Parent Councils & Parent Associations; members of teachers unions; lawyers, government department personnel and other interested parties.

Overview

One of the key challenges facing school management in 2014 is effectively dealing with bullying in a digital age. This one day conference will provide up-to-date knowledge and practical guidance from leading experts who will share the benefit of their expertise and experience in this area. The day will cover important current issues including cyberbullying; legal updates; the effective use of restorative practice and mediation in both prevention & intervention; the implementation of the new DES guidelines; involving management, staff, parents & pupils in preventing & addressing bullying behaviour and using education and prevention strategies to deal with bullying behaviour. The day will include round table discussions, practical work and opportunities to network and connect with colleagues and the conference speakers. It is a must attend event for all those involved in dealing with bullying in schools in 2014.

Bullying in the Digital Age - The Challenge for Schools in 2014

Programme

8.15 Registration

8.55 Welcome & housekeeping

Caroline Conroy, Director of Training, La Touche Training

9.00 Chairs Opening Address

Dr. Gerry Jeffers

9.05 Cyber Threats to Irish Children

- The world of cyber threats and Irish children
- An examination of the epidemic of cyberbullying and it's relationship with cyber criminals and other predators.
- What technical and legal safeguards are in place?
- What should and could be done to provide a safe internet environment for Irish children?

Paul Dwyer, Director of Strategic Solutions, Mandiant

9.35 A Legal Update on Bullying

- Duty of care owed by schools in instances of bullying
- The liability of schools in relation to out of school activities, i.e. are schools responsible or not
- Recent Irish cases particularly covering cyber bullying or bullying online
- The Cyberbullying Bill 2013

Dympna Glendenning BL

10.05 Bullying - A Reflection on the Main Issues for Parents & Children

- Parents survey on bullying in primary and post-primary schools (2013)
- Parent anti-bullying training in schools
- Personal reflections on some of the main issues for parents and children

Aine Lynch, the National Parents Council

10.30 Q & A

10.40 Refreshments Break

11.00 Bullying and the Employment Relationship

- What steps does an employer need to take before disciplining an employee for abuse of a social media or e-communications policy?
- Can an employer be held responsible for offensive comments posted by employees on social media sites outside of work?
- Can an employer discipline an employee for posting offensive comments on social media outside of work?
- What legal remedies exist for an employee who has been cyberbullied at work?
- Can an employer monitor an employee's social media or internet usage at work?
- The data protections pitfalls.

Julie O'Neill, Associate Solicitor, McDowell Purcell Solicitors

11.30 Q & A

11.40 A Restorative Approach to Bullying Disputes

This session will explore the philosophy and practices of a restorative approach to building a positive school community, where conflict and tensions are managed in a way that is firm and fair. In relation to dealing with bullying Margaret will look at how the restorative approach is both prevention and intervention, with a cautionary note about any sense of an easy solution to a complex issue. This session will look at the mind-set and skills involved and the challenge of implementing Restorative Practices into the Whole School Community.

Margaret McGarrigle, Restorative Practices Practitioner

12.30 LUNCH

13.30 The DES's new Anti-Bullying Guidelines - Bringing your School in Line

Principals and teachers will now be aware that they are obliged to have a new Anti-bullying Policy and Procedure implemented in their schools by Easter 2014. This workshop will:

- guide school staff through reviewing an anti-bullying policy
- offer suggestions as to how to meet the requirements of the new guidelines when investigating bullying issues within their schools
- give strategies for implementation of Anti-bullying Prevention and Awareness programs within the school as per the requirements of the new guidelines

Monica Monahan, CEO National Anti-Bullying Coalition

14.20 "Webwise" - The PDST Support Initiative

In this session Simon Grehan will talk about his work as the Internet Safety Coordinator at the PDST and specifically cover:

- Children's Use of the Internet in Ireland
- Prevalence and Characteristics of Cyber bullying
- Resources for Schools

Simon Grehan, Webwise, PDST.

14.45 Leading in the Prevention of Bullying

This presentation is rooted in every-day practice. It describes how one school reviewed its own anti-bullying policy and will focus on:

- valuing and nurturing "a positive school culture and climate that is welcoming of difference and diversity and is based on inclusivity and respect" (Des Circular 045/2013)
- involving management, staff, parents and pupils in preventing and addressing bullying behaviour
- using education and prevention strategies to deal with bullying behaviour
- recording, monitoring and assessing behaviour intervention and prevention strategies on an on-going basis.

Dr. Úna Feeley, School Principal, Roscommon

15.15 Q & A

15.25 Chairs Closing Remarks

Chair

Dr. Gerry Jeffers

Dr Gerry Jeffers is an education consultant, lecturer and writer. He recently retired as a full-time lecturer (Innovation and Development in Schools) in the Education Department, NUI Maynooth . His experience includes working in second-level schools as a teacher and guidance counsellor, teaching for two years in a school in Kenya, deputy-principal in Firhouse Community College, Dublin and national co-ordinator of the Transition Year Curriculum Support Service. He is currently chairperson of the Ubuntu Network management committee. His research interests include educational innovation, school leadership, education for global citizenship and educational disadvantage.

Speakers

Paul Dwyer

Paul C Dwyer is an internationally recognised information security expert with over two decades experience and serves as President of ICTTF International Cyber Threat Task Force. Paul has worked extensively around the world and trained with such organisations as the US Secret Service, Scotland Yard, FBI, National Counter Terrorism Security Office (MI5), is approved by the National Crime Faculty and is a member of the High Tech Crime Network (HTCN). He is a world leading Cyber Security GRC authority and provides advisory services to a number of organisations throughout the globe including Fortune 500, law enforcement, military (NATO) and more recently as an advisor to the Obama Administration on Cyber Threats in Europe. Paul is the Director of Strategic Solutions at Mandiant.

Dympna Glendenning, Barrister at law

Dr. Dympna Glendenning is a barrister with a background in education. She has experience as a teacher and school principal and has been Junior Counsel in a number of significant High Court school related cases. Dympna's particular area of interest is the interface of education with law. She is author of Education and the Law, 2nd edition Bloomfield Professionals, 2012 and Religion, Education and the Law, 2008, Tottel Publishing.

Áine Lynch

Áine Lynch started her career as a trainee accountant but then changed direction and qualified as a general and paediatric nurse. After a number of years in nursing she went back to fulltime education where she completed an honours degree in Behavioural Sciences. She moved to Ireland in 1996 and worked for two years in the area of child psychiatry in the Eastern Health Board following which she went on to work for the ISPCC as the Childline Manager. She finished her nine years with the ISPCC as the Director of Services, and in August 2007 Áine was appointed CEO of the National Parents Council Primary. Áine passionately believes all decisions in schools should be child centred, without compromise and believes this will be best achieved by fostering positive relationships between parents and teachers, particularly between Parent Associations and school leaders.

Julie O'Neill, Associate Solicitor, McDowell Purcell Solicitors

Julie O' Neill is a solicitor specialising in employment law. Julie provides advice to employers on all aspects of the employment relationship including wrongful and unfair dismissal, redundancies, issues arising from stress in the workplace, bullying and harassment claims, statutory entitlements, disciplinary. Julie has delivered a number of presentations on the issue of cyber bullying in the workplace and has published a number of articles on this topic.

Margaret McGarrigle

Margaret McGarrigle is a Restorative Practices/Mediation practitioner and trainer. She has a background in Post-Primary Education as teacher and principal. Margaret was Principal in a large Secondary School in the North West. She then trained as a counsellor, worked in the Visiting Teacher for Travellers Service and also in Health Promotion with parenting programmes and the Health Promoting School. She has had a supportive/supervisory role with individuals or Staff around managing conflict and change.

In recent years Margaret has worked throughout Ireland in Schools, Education Organisations, Youth Groups and Communities - training in either Restorative Practices / Conflict Management/Mediation. This has involved the co-delivery of a module in NUIM Masters Course in Mediation & Conflict Intervention on Restorative Practice in Education.

Monica Monahan

Monica Monahan is CEO of the National Anti-bullying Coalition, a voluntary organisation whose work is supported by the patronage of President Michael D Higgins and the ambassadorship of father of suicide victim Pheobe Prince, Jeremy. The coalition continues to build towards the development of a National Mandatory Whole School Anti-bullying Program and Team in Ireland which will support schools in addressing bullying relationships amongst any member of the Whole School Community.

Simon Grehan

Simon Grehan is the Internet Safety Coordinator at the Professional Development Service for Teachers. He is actively involved in researching children's use of the Internet, tracking emerging technologies, and raising awareness of the risks associated with their use. Simon is responsible for Webwise, an initiative which provides advice, support, and tools to teachers, parents, and children through its website, education initiatives, targeted awareness campaigns, and the provision of continuous professional development training to teachers. He was a member of the Anti-Bullying Working Group of the Department of Education and Skills.

Dr Úna Feeley

Dr. Úna Feeley began teaching in Ireland in 1984. In 2004 she was appointed principal of a large primary school in Roscommon where she now works. She is a part-time associate with the PDST Leadership and Planning team, based in the National University of Ireland, Maynooth (NUIM). In 1989 she travelled to Australia, taught in schools in New South Wales and Queensland and returned to teaching in Ireland in 1992. In 1999 she was appointed ICT Advisor to primary and post-primary schools in the midlands and was based in Athlone Education Centre. From 2001 – 2004 she worked as a facilitator with School Development Planning. Úna has studied in University College Dublin, Trinity College and the University of Lincoln in the UK.

Please use a photocopy of this form for each additional delegate.

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Date: Saturday, 29th March 2014

Time: 9.00am to 3.30pm,
Registration from 8.15am

Fee: €145.00 Early Bird - save €45
by booking before 28th
February 2014

Full conference rate: €190.00

**Additional 10% group discount
for 3 or more delegates from one
organisation**

Cancellations must be received in writing by the 14th March 2014 and will be subject to a 20% administration fee. Cancellations received after the 14th March 2014 and those not received in writing, will not be accepted and the delegate will be liable for the full fee. Delegate's names may be substituted although late bookings/substitutions may not necessarily be included on the delegate list.

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