



METHOD OF SHARED CONCERN

PRACTICE GUIDANCE





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This practice guidance is an extension of the Bullying Prevention module: Effective Interventions and Support.

It will provide you, as an educator with practical strategies to help form stronger and positive relationships in your school community and successfully undertake the Method of Shared Concern intervention.

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How to use this practice guidance:

-  Conversation starters
-  Suggested actions
-  Actions to avoid
-  Note-worthy point



1. Positive relationships with adults and peers at school – refer to the CO-LATE model practice guidance.
2. Helping children and young people to help each other. The Method of Shared Concern is one way to do this.



1. One-on-one conversation with the students involved in the bullying situation.
2. A meeting with the student impacted.
3. A follow-up conversation a few days later.
4. Facilitator to hold a group meeting.
5. Facilitator holds a final summit meeting.

One-on-one conversation with the students involved in the bullying situation

The aim is to confirm with the individuals involved that there is an issue that needs to be dealt with. It's not about seeking an admission of fault. This includes students directly involved or bystanders of the incident/s.

Things to think about:

- ✓ Separate conversations to allow for individual accounts.
- ✓ Build positive rapport with students involved and create a sense of empathy for impacted student.
- ✓ Generate a commitment to help collaboratively improve the situation.
- ☐ "What would you like to happen if you were in X's shoes?"
- ☐ "What actions have you seen that helps make others feel like they belong or feel safe?"
- ☐ "What do you know about the situation? What do you think the biggest concern for X is?"
- ✗ Avoid statements like "I have heard that..."
Or "Another student said..."

Meet with the student impacted

Let the child or young person know that those involved have acknowledged the situation is not good and have agr