



Be our best selves

COUGHTON

C of E Primary School

Issue 14

Key dates



Thursday 3 rd April	Year 4 MTC information evening 6.30pm on Teams
Tuesday 8 th April	Class Photographs
Wednesday 9 th April	Easter Services at Ste Peter's church 9.30-10.15 – KS1 & EYFS 10.30-11.30 – KS2
Thursday 10 th April	Year 1 Phonics Information meeting 6.30pm on Teams
Friday 11 th April	School closes for Easter holidays
Monday 28 th April	School Reopens for Summer Term
Friday 8 th May	Grandparent Gardening Day
Monday 12 th – Thursday 15 th May	SATS week – Year 6
Monday 28 th May – Friday 30 th May	Half term – school closed to pupils
Monday 2 nd June	INSET Day – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 3 rd June	School reopens to pupils
Monday 23 rd to Wednesday 25 th June	Year 6 Residential
Thursday 26 th June	Sports Day 1.00pm
Friday 18 th July	School Closes for Summer Holiday
Monday 21 st July	INSET Day

Dear Families,

It has been a very busy few weeks! The children have been working incredibly hard and it is a pleasure to look through their books. I have been giving out lots of stampers and golden tickets to children who have been going above and beyond in school.

World Book Day was a great success last week. Dressing up and having fun during the day was great but at Coughton we always reinforce the importance of reading each day.

Next week we celebrate Neurodiversity Celebration Week at school. Information meetings, courses and awareness of neurodivergence will be available for children, parents and staff. The week concludes with Red Nose Day- details on later pages.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the new children and their families who have joined our school community over the last couple of weeks.

I have added some information meetings for parents of children in Year 4 (multiplication and tables checking exercise) and Year 1 (Phonics screening assessment).

Head of School
Mr Alex Kolb

Christian virtue: Perseverance

Alne: 183

Avon: 173

Arrow: 191

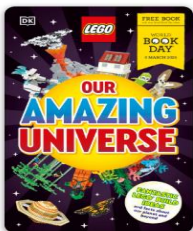
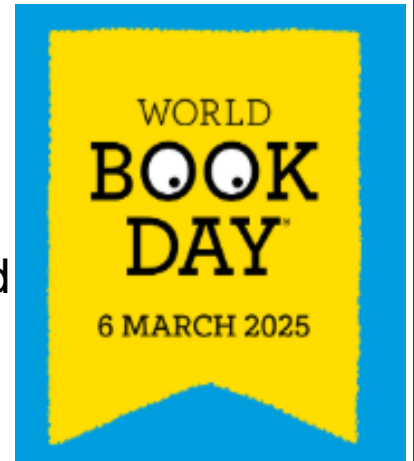
Coughton CE Primary School
Coughton Lane
Coughton
B49 5HN
01789 762444



Coughton CE Primary School



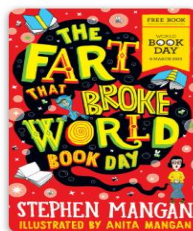
What a wonderful World Book Day!



Fluent

LEGO® Our Amazing Universe

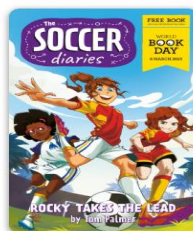
Published by DK



Fluent

The Fart that Broke World Book Day

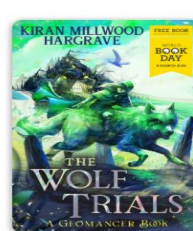
Published by Scholastic



Fluent

The Soccer Diaries Rocky Takes the Lead

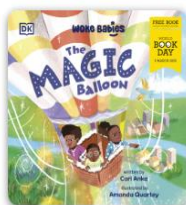
Published by Rebellion Publishing



Fluent

The Wolf Trials: A Geomancer book

Published by Hachette Childrens Group



Beginning

The Magic Balloon

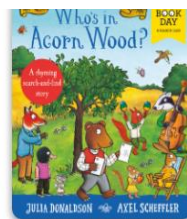
Published by DK



Beginning

Bluey's Little Book

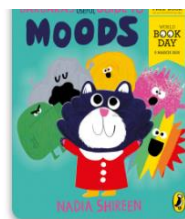
Published by Ladybird



Beginning

Who's in Acorn Wood?

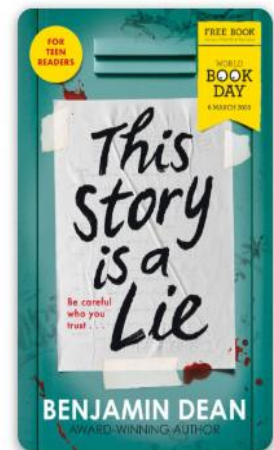
Published by Macmillan Children's Books



Beginning

Barbara's Very Useful Guide to Moods

Published by Puffin



BENJAMIN DEAN

AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR

WE'RE DOING SOMETHING FUNNY FOR MONEY THIS RED NOSE DAY!

WHAT?

- Children can come to school wearing Red!
- Best Joke competition!
- Complete the 'Billy Monger' challenge.
- A LUNCH TIME BIRTHDAY DISCO DANCEATHON to mark Comic Relief's 40th birthday! Let's take it back to 1985!

WHEN?

Friday 21st March

WHERE?

Coughton CofE School

Coughton CofE
School's JustGiving
Page



40 YEARS OF
COMIC
RELIEF

RED
NOSE
DAY

comicrelief.com/resources

Red Nose Day is an initiative of Comic Relief, operating name of Charity Projects, Ltd charity in England & Wales (326566) and Scotland (SC039730) and company by guarantee registered in England & Wales (01806414), registered address: c/o The White Chapel Building, 10 Whitechapel High Street, London, E1 9QZ.

FRIDAY 21 MARCH

Can you help?

We are looking to develop our lunchtime play provision by introducing some 'loose parts' play. Do you have any of the following (or similar) items you could donate?

Good quality pallets

Large drainage pipes

Clean tarpaulins

Scaffold planks

Large wooden cable reels

Dressing up clothes

Toy cars, blocks, small world play figures...

If you have any other resources you think might be suitable, please get in touch!



THANK YOU!



Important updates for Parents and Carers

Uniform

A reminder to name all clothing brought to school so that it can be easily returned to its owner. We are reminding children and allowing time at the end of the day for them to collect all of their things.

The second hand uniform stall in the PTA shelter is selling items for £1 each or online via <https://coughton-school-pta.sumupstore.com/>

Holiday / Leave of Absence Requests

All holiday requests will be unauthorised unless the circumstances are deemed exceptional by the Head of School. Should you wish to request leave of absence for your child(ren) please collect a form from the office.

Term dates 2024/25 can be found here:

<https://www.coughtonschool.org/term-dates/>

INSET DAYS

24/25- School, Closed For
Children

Monday 2nd June

Monday 21st July

Wraparound

We have a digital wraparound booking system. For details and to book a place please follow the link:

<https://coughton.childcare-online-booking.co.uk/>

Breakfast club from 7.30am,
after school club until 6pm
(Fridays until 5.30pm).



Neurodiversity Celebration Week 2025

Dear Parents,

We will be taking part in Neurodiversity Celebration Week again from 17th-23rd March after the wonderful feedback we had last year. So many pupils, staff and parents commented on what a positive and empowering experience this was for our school community.

As part of the activities planned for the week, we will be inviting Heather Vines from the Autistic Girls Network back into school. She will be leading an assembly for our younger children in Maple, Birch and Ash all about peer acceptance on **Tuesday 18th March at 9am**. Parents and carers are welcome to join us. Our Key Stage 2 classes will be engaging with resources to explore different types of neurodivergence such as Autism, ADHD, Dyslexia and Tourettes, and will be thinking about how to support neurodivergent peers.

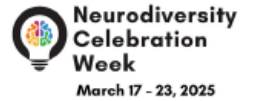
Last year our celebration included a book wish list where many families generously purchased neuro-affirming books for our pupils to enjoy. These will be utilised in classrooms.

If you would like to get involved, there are a number of free webinars and events running throughout the week- this link will take you to an interactive calendar so that you can book on to anything of interest ahead of time: <https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/events> A copy of the event calendar is also attached to this email.

Kind regards, Zoe Blackwell SENCo

Neurodiversity Celebration Week 2025 Events

Monday 17	Tuesday 18	Wednesday 19	Thursday 20	Friday 21
09:00 - 10:30 Celebrating Different Minds: An Introduction to Neurodiversity	09:30 - 10:30 Neurodiversity at Work Q&A: Products & Customer Services	08:30 - 10:00 Neurodiversity and Nutrition - Food For Thought	09:00 - 10:30 Is Neurodiversity a Community? Exploring Identity, Inclusion, and Intersectionality	09:00 - 10:30 Late Diagnosed Neurodiversity in Women
11:30 - 13:00 Breaking Barriers: The Power of Language in Neurodiversity	11:30 - 13:00 Neurodivergence & LGBTQIA+: A Conversation on Identity, Intersectionality & Empowerment	10:30 - 12:00 Shaping Neurodiversity through Innovation & Technology	11:00 - 12:30 Building the Neuroinclusive Classroom of Tomorrow...Today!	11:30 - 13:00 Parents & Carers - Supporting Children Through Times of Transition
13:30 - 15:00 Neurodivergence Seldom Travels Alone: The Unexplored World of Co-Occurring Conditions	13:30 - 15:00 Empowering Neurodiversity in the Workplace	13:00 - 14:00 Neurodiversity at Work Q&A: Designing Neuro-inclusive Working Environments	13:30 - 15:00 Workplace Burnout: How to Reclaim Your Energy as a Neurodivergent Woman at Work	13:30 - 15:00 Is the Business World leading society on Neuroinclusion?
15:30 - 17:00 Neurodiversity: Where can HR Professionals make a difference?	15:30 - 17:00 Neurodiversity & Mental Health - Acquired Neurodivergence	14:30 - 16:00 Person-Centered Management for Neuroinclusion	15:30 - 17:00 Navigating Neurodiversity & the Criminal Justice System	15:30 - 17:00 Celebrating Different Minds: Future Directions and Continuing Conversations
19:00 - 20:30 Perspective of Young People on Neurodiversity	19:00 - 20:30 Navigating Neurodiversity: Parental Perspectives, Professional Insights, and Policy Changes in 2025	16:30 - 18:00 What makes spaces and places neuroinclusive in education?	19:00 - 20:30 Neurodiversity around the World	



To book on to any of the sessions:

<https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/events>

Bookings are now open for the Easter Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

Please contact the HAF providers directly to book a place.

View frequently asked questions about the HAF programme including HAF codes, activity listings and booking queries [here](#).

[View the activity listings](#)

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/directory/46/haf-spring-activities>



Have your say on workshops and programmes for parents and carers

Parent Coaches are looking to provide workshops and programmes around parenting and relationships across Warwickshire. These may take place in schools, children and family centres and community venues.

Please complete the questionnaire so the team know what support you feel is needed and what you'd like to access in your area.

View the range of workshops and programmes available to book now [here](#).

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/warwickshire-parenting-support-71623337213>

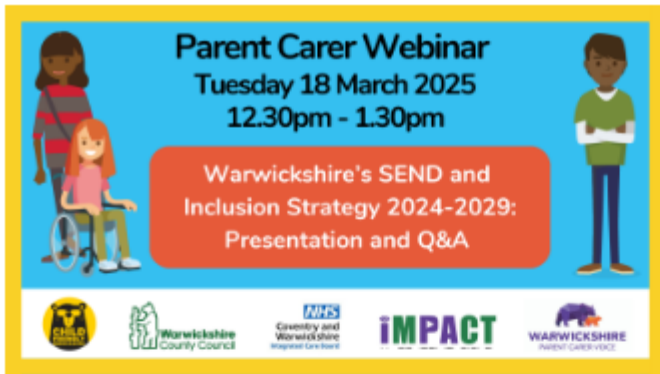


Energy bill support available through Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme

The Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme is distributing funding from the Department for Work and Pensions' Household Support Fund providing a one-off voucher payment to meet an immediate need and help those who are finding it hard to manage the cost of their energy bills. This supplements ongoing emergency support from the Local Welfare Scheme for residents in financial crisis.

Funding for this campaign is limited, and the scheme will close on 28 March 2025 or sooner if all the funding is allocated before this date.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/new/article/6049/energy-bill-support-available-through-warwickshire-local-welfare-scheme>



Warwickshire SEND and Inclusion Strategy 2024-2029 special webinar

The new Warwickshire Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Inclusion Strategy 2024-2029 has been published and is now live on the County Council website.

Parents, carers, and others with an interest in SEND, are invited to sign up to a special webinar on Tuesday 18 March, 12.30pm-1.30pm to find out more.

The webinar will provide an opportunity for attendees to hear about the main aims and six priorities included within the strategy and the actions identified to deliver these over the next five years, followed by a live Q&A.

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=BqqwiCdZu0uok4nMJxOsgjSsUxM7CR9Lle6sqd8ufgRUQTFEWVRLRkdJRTAwUUpLQ1U1QzI2T1ZRNy4u&route=shorturl>

Empower your parenting journey by joining insightful workshops and programmes

The Family and Relationship Support Team provide online guides, virtual and face to face workshops and programmes for parents and carers. Topics include sleep, behaviour, teenagers, nurture, boundaries and rules, and more.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/parentguides>

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/warwickshire-parenting-support-71623337213>



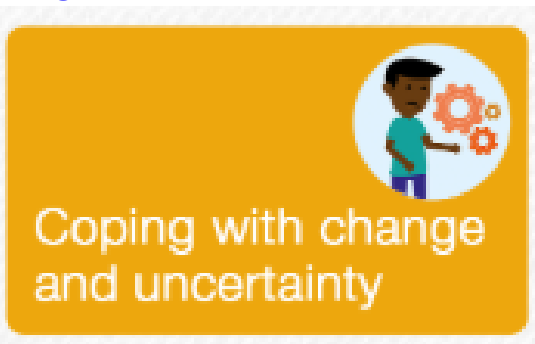
https://issuu.com/familiesonline/docs/families_warwickshire_march_april_2025_print?fr=sODIjYTgzMDczMDM



<https://cwrise.com/coping-with-anxiety>



<https://cwrise.com/emotional-regulation>



<https://cwrise.com/coping-with-change-and-uncertainty>



Well done to the archery team who performed really well last week at St Nicholas Primary School.

“I loved doing the archery and hitting the bullseye.” Archie



Well done to the girls in years 3, 4 and 6 who took part in the football festival at Alcester Town this week

Well done to the Y4 boys who represented the school so well against Bidford this week. Bidford ran out as 4-1 winners but the boys worked hard and created some good chances.



THE HEART OF ENGLAND FOREST



Some of our children enjoyed planting some trees with The Heart of England Forest. What a memorable experience.



Acer enjoyed painting things they could see in the environment during forest school this week.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wright 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

The law states a leave of absence may only be granted by a school if an application is made in advance and if it considers there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.

Schools must judge each application individually considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind each request.

A leave of absence is granted entirely at the school's discretion. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance.

Where a leave of absence is granted, the school will determine the number of days a pupil can be absent from school.

When making an application for Leave of Absence parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the

Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. The school may also request further information on the application and supporting documentation where appropriate.

It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is the parents' responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent ie the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child is expected to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence.

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'.

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council. Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices and in the first instance, as an alternative to prosecution proceedings.

Leave of Absence taken in the academic year 2024-25

The law relating to Penalty Notices changed with effect from 19 August 2024. Therefore, Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absence taken from September 2024 will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.

Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices – 4 in total).

- First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.
- Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): The amount of £160 paid within 28 days. No reduced amount.

Payment plans will not be offered and/or payments received outside of the 28 day period will not be accepted. Where a penalty notice expires unpaid the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider criminal prosecution.

- Third Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): A penalty notices will be not be issued and the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996.

- **Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.**

2024/2025 Leave of absence

Leave of Absence taken in the academic year 2024-25

The law relating to Penalty Notices is due to change with effect from 1 September 2024. Therefore Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absences taken after this date will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.

- Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices – 4 in total).
 - First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.
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Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.

Warwickshire Attendance Service

Key Dates- In advance

3rd April 2025- Y4 Information meeting Multiplication Check
6.30pm Microsoft Teams

10th April 2025- Y1 phonics information meeting 6.30pm
Microsoft Teams

Grandparent Gardening Day:
8th May 2025

Sports Day:
26th June 2025 1pm

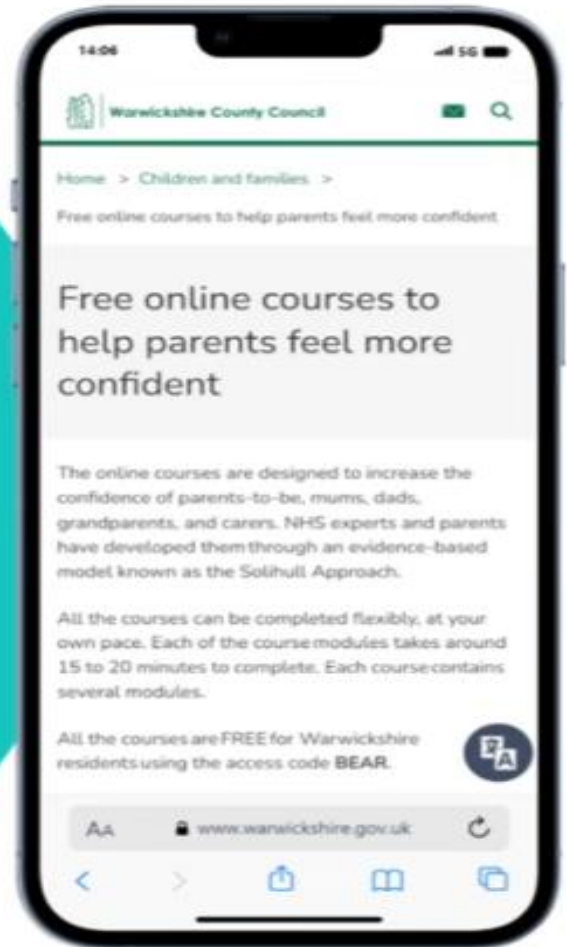
Dogs

A reminder that Warwickshire Schools are dog free areas except for guide dogs or assistance dogs. Please do not to bring dogs on to the school site whether on leads or being carried in arms.



An online course to help you Understanding your child with additional needs

visit
[warwickshire.gov.uk/parentguides](https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/parentguides)
to get started for free



Free

**'Understanding your child with additional needs'
course is for parents and carers of children who
may be neurodiverse, or have a physical or
learning disability**

Whatever their developmental age, these ideas and techniques may help you better understand your child and how to help process or manage their emotions.

Use the code **BEAR** to get free access.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/parentguides>

JOULES

- EST. 1989 -

We are delighted to be holding a Joules Outlet Event at the Grieg Hall, Alcester.

 Tickets are £6.50

There will be 100s of Joules items, including women's, men's and children's, plus homeware and accessories all at heavily reduced prices. All items are provided by Joules and are either returned or surplus stock.

Children are allowed in for free, however, we anticipate it to be very busy. So we don't recommend bringing them if possible. Pushchairs will NOT be allowed into the saleroom.

PLEASE NOTE: We will not be able to offer refunds on any tickets purchased.

This is a Joules Outlet Event organised by Coughton CofE Primary School PTA and not Joules Limited.

Please note this is a charity event run by volunteers

Tickets available from: [www.ticketsource.co.uk/coughton-cofe-pta]
(https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/coughton-cofe-pta?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAAR1R_mEzUGqyENJVwjf-UupUqtCSRn4FwaBJVNZRN24HTQbLhQwhe5qnmGE_aem_NEte-2vzkyIVlz05ih8Qyg)

Protective Behaviours

– what's that?



Protective Behaviours (PBs) is an internal process where each person applies the ideas to their own unique experience. This paper looks at what Protective Behaviours is and some of its uses. It is intended as an information paper with the hope the reader will see its relevance to their specific interests and will then attend training.

The PBs process is presented here as separate sections. In practice, all interact and support each other - to take one section out leaves the others incomplete.

Unwritten rules of society

We see how certain rules of society have a powerful influence on our choices of behaviour. Whilst these rules can be positive and help guide our interactions, many of them tell us we should, ought, or must behave in a particular way. For instance, children should do as adults tell them; professionals should always have the answer; men should not show their feelings and women should behave in a ladylike manner. These rules are not written down, are often contradictory and may not fit with our own experience. During training we look at their function, how they develop, their effects and why we may choose to follow them or not.

Feelings, Thoughts and Behaviours

During this session we look at the interaction between our feelings, thoughts and behaviour. We see that feelings are feelings, neither right nor wrong, good nor bad, positive nor negative. Some people seem to mask one feeling with another or use behaviour as a way of avoiding or covering feelings. We look at how behaviour is a choice with an effect. These effects may involve others as well as ourselves. Sometimes we do not know what our choices are or they may be limited by factors we cannot change. Once we are in touch with our feelings it helps free us to use our thinking. Our thinking can influence both our feelings and behaviour.

Theme 1 'We all have the right to feel safe all the time'

We explore this theme in detail, carefully looking at the connection between rights and responsibilities. We also take the concepts of blame and punishment out of commonly held ideas associated with responsibilities. Instead we focus on the 'ability to respond' contained within the meaning of the word. The difference between having a responsibility for ourselves and to others is also examined. Next we discover for ourselves the difference between feeling safe, fun to feel scared (adventurous), risking on purpose (which may not feel like fun but we want the goal at the end) and feeling unsafe. These differences are recognised by what we call our 'Early Warning Signs' (EWS), the specific bodily responses which tell us when we do not feel safe. These universal body signs mean Protective Behaviours is accessible to all people, irrespective of age, gender, sexuality, nationality, ability or belief system.

Theme 2 'We can talk with someone about anything, even if feels awful or small'

This theme is also explored in detail. In particular we focus on the ideas and effects of 'talking', and what might happen if we do not believe this theme. We encourage everyone to develop their personal networks of support; those people they could turn to if in need. Desired qualities of network people are identified and we examine how we would know if someone has these qualities. Types of networks and ways of letting people know we need to talk with them are also explored.