



17 October 2017

The Anne Frank Trust UK, Bedfordshire Police and Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner Mark Launch of Second Year of Anti-Hate Crime Schools Project During National Hate Crime Awareness Week 2017

The team behind a Bedfordshire-wide anti-hate crime schools project are launching a second year of the initiative at an event to mark National Hate Crime Awareness Week 2017: education charity The Anne Frank Trust UK, in partnership with Bedfordshire Police and Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner, are celebrating the ongoing success of their Anti-Hate Crime Schools project at Vandyke Upper School in Leighton Buzzard on Tuesday 17th October. The event will be led by pupils at Vandyke who have become Anne Frank Ambassadors through their involvement with the Trust.

Eva Clarke, one of the youngest-known Holocaust Survivors, will be telling her story at the event, which is open to the public. Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner Kathryn Holloway who will also be speaking at the event, amplified her support for the project: "What really impresses me about the work the Trust are doing in schools is that this is not a lesson for a day. The Trust creates Anti-Hate Crime Ambassadors to carry forward the message that prejudice and abuse are unacceptable every day of the year," she said, "this year those Ambassadors will be spreading the message further in their own schools and others throughout the county to create a much-needed network of tolerance among young people in Bedfordshire."

Val Ross, Eastern Regional Manager for the Trust, who was delivering workshops at Sharnbrook Academy, Bedford, last week to kick off the project's second year, is delighted the project is continuing: "Being able to extend our reach by developing and fostering relationships for another year with schools, community partners and the Police in Bedfordshire demonstrates the importance of our work in the locality to educate young people against the dangers and impact of prejudice. For us, Hate Crime Awareness Week isn't solely for one week: it's about fostering positive attitudes and behaviour towards others which will last a lifetime thus creating a more cohesive, supportive and positive environment for us all to thrive."

The Anti-Hate Crime Schools Project has reached over 2,000 young people in schools and other settings across Bedfordshire since its launch during National Hate Crime Awareness Week 2016. This further year's funding runs in two strands: the Anti-Hate Crime Schools Project and Switch Off Prejudice – a new digital resilience programme.

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Notes to Editors

About The Anne Frank Trust UK

Prejudice and discrimination harms individuals, communities and society. The Anne Frank Trust UK is an education charity. We use Anne Frank's life and diary to empower young people with the

knowledge, skills and confidence to challenge all forms of prejudice and discrimination.

We partner with schools, local authorities, criminal justice education services and others, to deliver education to young people in a variety of settings, predominantly in schools.

Our interactive and impactful programme includes an exhibition of Anne Frank's life and diary combined with workshops, peer education and an ambassador programme. The Anne Frank Trust UK was established in 1991 by family and friends of Otto Frank, following his wish for an educational organisation to be set up in memory of his daughter Anne.

www.annefrank.org.uk