



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Anne Frank Trust UK and Bedfordshire Police launch a new Schools Project to tackle growing hate crime

The Anne Frank Trust UK is delighted to partner with Bedfordshire Police to launch an Anti-Hate Crime Schools Project to support victims and potential victims of hate crime, and raise awareness amongst young people in schools of the reporting and support services for victims. The project is set to reach 1,600 young people across six schools in Bedfordshire.

Mark Rutherford School students will kick-start the project by hosting a launch on Monday 10 October 2016. Those in attendance will have the opportunity to hear the remarkable story of Holocaust survivor and posthumous step-sister of Anne Frank, Dr Eva Schloss MBE.

The launch will also coincide with National Hate Crime Awareness Week, during which Mark Rutherford School pupils will be the first to welcome the project. Students will benefit from a range of dynamic workshops designed to open debate and discussion on contemporary issues of prejudice, hate crime and social responsibility. Workshops will be delivered in parallel with training and guided tours of the acclaimed 'Anne Frank: A History for Today' exhibition.

Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner Kathryn Holloway said "the Anne Frank Trust is doing a fantastic job raising awareness of hate crime in schools nationally, and earlier this year I granted £15,000 to the Trust so that Bedfordshire could benefit from the work they do.

Bedfordshire Police already has an impressive track record when it comes to tackling hate crime, as in June it was reported that the county saw a fall at a time when the national trend was increasing post-Brexit. I am determined to build on this track record of tolerance in this and future generations.

Much of this success in tackling hate crime can be contributed to the hard work of the Force's Community Cohesion team. Working together on the Anti-Hate Crime Schools Project going forward, I think the Anne Frank Trust and Bedfordshire Police can make a formidable team, bringing about some significant, lasting change going forward.

What really impresses me about the work the Trust will be doing in schools is that this is not a lesson for a day. The Trust creates Hate Crime Ambassadors to carry forward the message that prejudice and abuse are unacceptable every day of the year".

For more information about the Anne Frank Trust UK's work, visit www.annefrank.org.uk.

Ends

More information

More information on this release or to request an interview, contact:

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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

About the Anne Frank Trust Schools Programme

Independent research has shown that The Anne Frank Trust's Schools Programme increases students' levels of confidence and respect for others. The full impact report is at www.annefrank.org.uk/impact-report

About Anne Frank's diary

Anne Frank and her family were forced into hiding in 1942 to escape persecution by the Nazi occupation. While in hiding for two long years, she kept a diary documenting her thoughts, hopes and dreams. Her father, Otto, was the Frank family's sole survivor. Fulfilling his daughter's wish to become a writer, Otto decided to publish Anne's diary, so that people would remember his daughter and the millions of other men, women and children who lost their lives in the Holocaust.