

## **Pupils to benefit from anti-hate crime programme**

Further schools in the county will benefit from an anti-hate crime project devised and run by education charity the Anne Frank Trust UK, which has secured further funding from the Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Kathryn Holloway.

The programme, which has won plaudits from teachers and pupils alike, incorporates a range of dynamic workshops designed to generate debate and discussion on prejudice, hate crime and social responsibility, and promote positive attitudes. Workshops are delivered alongside tours of the Anne Frank Trust's acclaimed exhibition: 'Anne Frank – A History for Today' and Holocaust survivor, and Anne Frank's posthumous step-sister, Dr Eva Schloss MBE, is also invited to share her remarkable story.

Commissioner Holloway said: "What really impresses me about the work the Anne Frank Trust will be 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."

Anti-Hate Crime Ambassadors receive additional training from the Anne Frank Trust and raise awareness widely among their peer group about the dangers to society of prejudice and discrimination.

Bedfordshire Police Hate Crime Sergeant James Hart said: "The work of the Trust is so important for the next generation and community of Bedfordshire. We are therefore very encouraged that our partnership is now moving ahead to continue this important work."

The project reached more than 2,000 young people in schools and other settings across Bedfordshire during its last round of funding including Mark Rutherford School, The Chalk Hills Academy, Goldington Academy, Vandyke Upper, Stockwood Park Academy, ACE Luton and Fulbrook Middle, in Milton Keynes. The project also involved young people at TOKKO Youth Centre in Luton.

Val Ross, Eastern Regional Manager for the Anne Frank Trust, added: "We're now actively engaging with schools in the area to launch the second year of the programme. It is something the community has really responded to, with high levels of engagement, especially among young people who have been particularly motivated and switched on. Being able to extend our reach and develop relationships with schools in Bedfordshire, has been very important to us and so worthwhile for all involved."

For more information about the Anne Frank Trust UK's work, visit [www.annefrank.org.uk](http://www.annefrank.org.uk) or email Regional Manager Val Ross at [ValR@annefrank.org.uk](mailto:ValR@annefrank.org.uk) and to find out more about how Bedfordshire Police tackles hate crime visit [www.bedfordshire.police.uk/tackling\\_crime/hate\\_crime\\_and\\_hate\\_incidents.aspx](http://www.bedfordshire.police.uk/tackling_crime/hate_crime_and_hate_incidents.aspx)

## **Notes to Editors**

Further quotes about the Anne Frank Trust's work in schools:

'It has been an honour and a privilege to work with the Anne Frank Trust. This last year I have had the opportunity to meet some truly inspirational people and to spread the important story of Anne Frank which is essential in modern times'. **Chloe, year 10 student, The Chalk Hills Academy.**

"Our relationship with the Anne Frank Trust began earlier this academic year when Year 6 pupils were privileged enough to take part in the primary project, during one of our Super Learning Days. The work complemented our 'Unity through Diversity' theme and undoubtedly reinforced our school values - especially Responsibility, Respect and Acceptance.

"We were then fortunate enough to host the touring exhibition, to which the whole community was invited. The response was overwhelmingly positive. Our pupils decreed that it's possible to change everyday lives through this exhibition.

"They said: "We were moved by Anne's past and glad that's not going to be our future. We really wanted to open the hearts and minds of everyone who visited the exhibition. The reason it's 'a history for today' is because we can see the relationships between the people who received hate in WWII and world events today." **Sam Clancy, Headteacher, Fulbrook Middle School.**

#### Further information about the Anne Frank Trust:

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.

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/impactreport](http://www.annefrank.org.uk/impactreport)

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.