

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**MEETING WITH CABINET MEMBER, HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES****11 November 2014****Report of the Strategic Director, Health and Communities****“THE ART OF BEING BRILLIANT” - CREATIVE PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOLS****1 Purpose of the report:**

To allocate funding to continue ‘The Art of Being Brilliant’ Programme for Schools and Support Centres.

2 Information and analysis:

In 2012, “The Art of Brilliance” won a three year tender to deliver an Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) Education Programme in schools across Derbyshire. The terms of the tender was for a period of one year with an option to extend for further periods up to a maximum of two additional years. Aims are for young people to focus on pro-social attitudes and behaviours, allowing them to design action plans involving the whole school and local community. The ethos is that “brilliant” young people have no interest in crime and ASB, and is aimed at those aged 11 to 13 in Derbyshire schools identified as ‘hot spot’ areas. Learning outcomes include an understanding of alcohol and ASB, respect other people and their differences, promote positive behaviour and gain confidence to stand up to peer pressures.

This programme was extended in 2013 (Year Two) and delivered to staff prior to the young people, then a year group workshop, along with a follow up visit for school ‘champions’ to create their action plans. Finally, a ‘celebration event’ took place for the champions to showcase their work from the action plans. This project covered 1,510 pupils of which 216 were champions (engaging in assemblies, posters, clean ups in the local area and visits to local residential homes) and featured on the local news channels.

As part of the project evaluation perception surveys revealed attitudes at school: confidence and happiness had improved, and students felt more confident to stand up to friends who were doing something wrong or dangerous. There was an improvement in attitudes towards ASB, respecting difference and understanding the impact of alcohol use. Comments from students and teachers included; *“There are a number of students in the cohort who struggle.... this was the perfect opportunity to make them realise what strengths they have”* *“my behaviour influences people around me”* *“The response has been really positive ...”* *“it addresses very prominent issues in*

our community without making students feel targeted” “compliments the curriculum” “Fits in with our work on anti-bullying”.

Further feedback from the Schools and students suggested they would benefit from receiving this input prior to moving up to secondary schools. Work with students who have disabilities and additional educational support seemed to gain the most from the project outcomes, with support staff commenting that they engaged well throughout the day. This included students with statemented needs, autism and those with behavioural/familial issues. Feedback also included schools preferring short bursts of information to the students, preferring the champion workshop method for delivering messages.

In view of the positive outcomes achieved in previous years, it is proposed that the programme is continued for one more final year targeting:

- looked after children who are not in mainstream education and are attending Support Centres
- those attending special schools across the county
- identified secondary schools who have not previously received support from this programme

It is proposed to allocate £50,000 from the Community Safety Budget to expand this successful programme. There is no need for further re-procurement as this is an existing tender extension which is due to expire 31 August 2015.

3 Financial consideration:

Subsequent funding allocated to this project was £35,000 (2012) and £35,000 (2013).

4 Other considerations:

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity, human resources, environmental, health, and property and transport considerations.

5 Background papers:

Art of Brilliance Evaluation 2013-2014

6 Key Decision:

No

7 Call-in:

Is it required that call-in be waived for any decision on this report?
No

8 Officer's recommendation:

That the Art of Being Brilliant Education programme be continued at a cost of £50,000 to be met from the Community Safety budget.

**David Lowe
Strategic Director
Health and Communities**