

**Anti Bullying/Cyber Bullying & Suicide Prevention Project..  
Lions Club, District 105 Ireland.  
Convention Report September 2016.**

Dear Lions Club President.

Wishing you the very best, as President for the coming Lions Club year.

Please include in your Clubs programme for the coming year, Anti Bullying and Suicide Prevention.

**\*Anti Bullying.**

We suggest a member of your Club meets with individual School Principals (Primary and/or Secondary) to enlist their support. Emphasise that we are not there to encroach in any way on policies or protocols that the school already has in place, in relation to bullying. Rather, our aim is to support what is already happening in schools by providing the leaflets free of charge.

The aim is to have the Principal agree to ensure that each child in the relevant classes bring a copy of the leaflet (sample enclosed) home to their parents/guardians

Correct Information in the right hands is a key part of preventing Bullying.

Within the next few weeks, it is our intention to have a Lions Club, Face Book account up and running, dedicated to Anti Bullying.

\*\*Mr Sean Fallon, Anti Bullying [Campaign.ie](http://Campaign.ie) [0868496460](http://0868496460), is prepared to visit schools, (no fee, just modest expenses) Wonderful report of Sean's visit to Westport LC, almost 100 teachers attended.  
Enclosed profile of Mr Sean Fallon.

**\*Suicide Prevention**

Included please find details on our District Suicide Project, and samples of Lions Club small cards, with helpline contact numbers.

Lions Clubs members can help to prevent suicides.

*"Bullying/Cyber Bullying is causing havoc, and can lead to suicide"*  
(newspaper headline)

Anti Bullying leaflets (€70 per 1,000)

Suicide Awareness small cards (€50 per 500 South)(£30 NI)

Stickers €25 per 90 stickers.

Yours sincerely.

Pat Connolly. Project Chairman.

Sept 2016

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***Extract from a report from, Ms Gerardine Holland (President, NCW Lions club)***

*As a recently retired teacher, I was very interested in the the Bullying Project and very pleasantly surprised when I went through the leaflet.*

*First impressions as a Parent and a teacher were 100% positive. I felt the leaflet a very valuable aid to any parent if only to have all the 'blocking' data at hand.*

*The means to block unwelcome texts on all networks is, in itself, a must have tool for parents!*

*Dr Eileen Doyle wrote.*

*The LIONS CLUB has produced a concise, practical, informative and very readable leaflet on BULLYING. The tone of the leaflet is measured, positive and supportive. The LIONS believe that something can be done for a child or adolescent who may be a target of bullying: informing Parents is a crucial step.*

*Dr Eileen Doyle. chaired two different groups on bullying, who each produced a report. Those reports former a central part of Irish Government policy.*

*'Response to the Challenge of a Workplace'*

*'Dignity at Work'*

## Suicide Prevention.

Request Lions Clubs members to engage with Suicide Prevention Project.

a) Encourage members to distribute Lions Clubs small cards. (samples enclosed)

b) Help to organise Suicide Safe talk, or ASIST two day training.

Many Lions Clubs in conjunction with the HSE local suicide prevention officers, are helping to set up Safe Talks (3 hours), and ASIST courses (2 days)

Contact your local suicide resource officer. Check out National Office of Suicide Prevention on, [NOSP.ie](http://NOSP.ie) for contact details

c) Wonderful projects on Suicide Prevention organised by, Waterford LC, Naas LC, Newbridge/Kildare LC. and many other Lions Clubs.

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To the Lions Clubs of Ireland:

The Anti-Bullying Campaign was initiated in a post primary school, Coláiste Éanna in Autumn, 2003 by teachers Seán Fallon and Mary Kent in response to a phone call from a worried mother. It developed over the years since then into a comprehensive programme for primary and post primary schools. Through the use of a wide range of awareness-raising resources and a humane response to bullying situations when they arise the Anti-Bullying Campaign programme has been effective in reducing the amount and intensity of bullying in schools all over Ireland and fully resolving countless bullying situations, to the benefit of children wherever the programme is implemented.

The Anti-Bullying Campaign is fully compatible with the mandatory “Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, 2013,” and fulfils all their requirements, giving children the opportunity to experience school life free from bullying and all the problems that flow from it.

The Anti-Bullying Campaign with all its resources is available free of charge to teachers and schools everywhere through our website, [www.antibullyingcampaign.ie](http://www.antibullyingcampaign.ie). Now, all that is needed is for schools to hear about, adopt and implement the programme. Word about this has been spread through the newsletter and website of the Irish Primary Principals Network and by word of mouth among school principals and teachers. As a result, for the last six years Seán, who is now retired, has visited schools all over Ireland, on invitation and for no fee, to explain to school staff groups how to implement the programme.

Since the first meeting between Pat Connolly of the Lions Clubs of Ireland and Seán Fallon, the Lions Clubs of Ireland have helped this endeavour in two ways in addition to the huge moral support Pat brought. Firstly, the anti-bullying flyer, funded, developed and circulated by many of the Lions clubs around

Ireland has enlightened thousands of parents on the issue of bullying and how to deal with it and this has not only helped families but led to further requests for training by schools. Secondly, by initiating the coming together of several local school staffs in a region, organised, for example, by Seán O'Malley in Westport, Seán's visit from Dublin is more efficient and teacher/school solidarity in implementing the programme in a region further encourages good outcomes.

The work of the Anti-Bullying Campaign will not be complete until every school in Ireland, primary and post primary, fully implements the programme (or an equivalent in the unlikely event that if they can find one). Some schools, which had already started on other necessary training, for example in relation to child safeguarding, have delayed their implementation of the Department's anti-bullying requirements but need to act now in relation to this. Any help that the Lions Clubs can provide in initiating this in localities where they carry out their work or in circulating copies of the flyer to parents in their regions would be very welcome. The benefit for children in these areas would be immense both in the short and long term.

With every good wish,

Seán Fallon.

[0868496460](tel:0868496460)