

Building Respectful Families

The Building Respectful Families Programme aims to work with families where young people are displaying abusive or violent behaviour towards their parents/carers and where the parent/carer is afraid of the young person. This behaviour includes, physical violence to the parent(s), damaging belongings or the home environment (holes in walls, doors), regularly stealing from the home or family members, threatening family members, threatening to hurt or harm siblings or pets or themselves, and attempting to or actually controlling the home environment. There may be additional behaviours, such as refusing to attend school, causing problems at school.

Building Respectful Families is a pilot programme that has been developed applying the format of a successful programme that has been used in other areas. The aim is to build a family solution to child on parent violence, through a 10 week course, with simultaneous groups, one for parents and one for young people taking place. The young person's group is one & a half hours, with an additional hour for creative activity, the parents group is for two hours. Both groups are run by trained and experienced facilitators. The theme that runs through the course is respect and responsibility.

The programme is for parents and young people who are willing to make changes in how they communicate to each other and to improve home life. It aims to help parents and young people to see a healthy way of communicating with each other so that they feel equipped to continue to build a stronger relationship in the future.

How does it work?



- **Work on issues through creative work:** The young people group will use graffiti, lyric writing, artwork and music editing to create a music track to take away with them at the end of the programme.
- **Friendly team:** The Building Respectful Families Team will arrange to meet with the family to explain what the programme is about and make sure it is the right support for them. When the families come to the first session, they will already have met some of the team they will work with.
- **Listen to each other:** We use film to create a conversation between the parent and the young person. They are able to ask and answer questions from each other in a safe space. Parents and young people take a copy of this home at the end of the programme.
- **Feel safe:** The groups are able to feel secure in the confidentiality of them and those around them.
- **Lasting memories:** The parent/carer and young person are able to walk away with lasting memories of their hard work together and also leave the programme with strategies and new found ways of working with one another to ensure a non-abusive and or violent future.
- **Share knowledge and experiences:** The families join others who are experiencing similar behaviour and can share their experiences and gain support.

This programme is by referral only and has limited space. Referrals are welcome from both statutory and other agencies.

Supported by

Youth Justice Service – Oxfordshire County Council

Oxford City Council

Police & Crime Commissioner – Thames Valley

Thames Valley Police

Oxfordshire County Council

University of Bedfordshire

Safe! Support for Young People Affected by Crime

Applying the Break4Change Model

Contact

For more information:

Colette Morgan

Oxfordshire Child on Parent Violence Project Development Manager

Building Respectful Families Programme

Tel: 01865 203829 | Mob: 07419374271

Colette.Morgan@Safeproject.org.uk

Building Respectful Families:

A Programme to address Child on Parent Violence in Oxfordshire

Working together:

