

Grief and the Teenager

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Project staff:	Alison Penny, Main Contact
Project partners:	Family Care The Laura Centre Leeds Animation Workshop University of Leicester, School of Education

Themes

NCB promotes the voices, interests and well-being of all children and young people across every aspect of their lives. Current and planned work focuses on the six strategic themes. This project relates to the following themes:

NCB Themes

- promoting participation and young citizenship;
 - communicating positive attitudes and images;
 - improving social and economic opportunities;
 - **enhancing health and well-being;**
 - celebrating diversity, valuing difference;
 - developing safe and positive environments;
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Project summary

This project aims to develop and improve support for parents and carers of bereaved teenagers and their families, by providing resources enabling parents and local service providers to respond more effectively to young people's needs.

Working closely with user groups, voluntary organisations and professionals, we will develop, produce, pilot and disseminate a resource package including an animated DVD and booklet for parents and families, and training materials aimed at professionals and volunteers providing services for parents and adolescents.

Disseminated in all targeted areas, Leeds Animation Workshop's DVD will present a series of short animated scenarios about young people from diverse backgrounds experiencing loss in different ways: expected as well as sudden bereavements (including violence and suicide), involving parents, siblings, and friends. Readily accessible, it will show the issues facing bereaved adolescents, and help parents and carers understand their reactions and the effects grief may have on their behaviour.

Suitable for viewing by all kinds of facilitated or self-help groups, parenting classes, or individuals at home, it will also be useful for training volunteers and professionals, and stimulating discussion, awareness-raising and education to highlight the needs of bereaved teenagers.

The Laura Centre and Leicester University School of Education will develop, pilot and disseminate a course and training materials for professionals and volunteers to help them support parents with all aspects of dealing with bereaved teenagers. The course will also help facilitators exploit the DVD resource fully. The training materials will be disseminated in targeted areas and freely available on the Internet.

Project outputs

Main beneficiaries/target audiences

Parents and carers of adolescents who have experienced bereavement;

Other family members including the adolescents themselves;

Organisations, professionals and volunteers working with the parents and carers of bereaved adolescents and their families.
