

HeadStart Blackpool: Evaluation of a Complex Community-Based Resilience Intervention

Elle Barnett*, Blackpool Council* Suna Eryigit-Madzwamuse*, University of Brighton* 6th September 2019

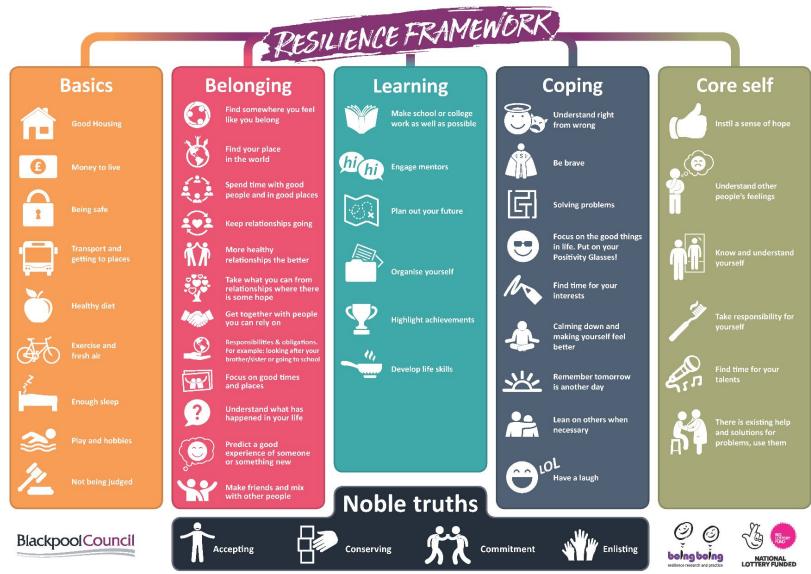












Adapted from Hart & Blincow with Thomas 2007 www.boingboing.org.uk. Co-designed with Marton Primary's Resilience Committee



Tourism

High Deprivation

- Poor:

 Housing
 - Educational Attainment
 - Mental/Physical Health

High rate of Looked After Children





1. Practice Development

2. Strategic Delivery and Transformation

3. Enabling Youth Voice and Activism

4. Targeted Support





Workforce and Community Development

Rochelle Morris and Adam Williams 6th September 2019

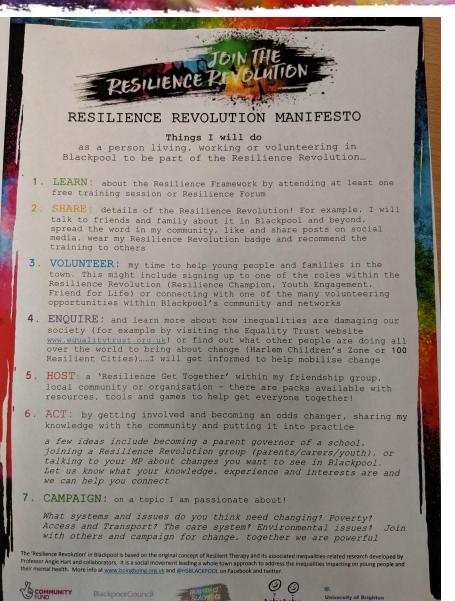
Fundamentals

Co-production

- Whole Systems Change
- **Social Justice**
- **Asset Based**
- One approach, One Language
- **Research and Evaluation**
- **Brave and Innovative**



Social Movement



Learn Share Volunteer Enquire Host Act Campaign

Resilience Forums



Print, Social and Digital Media





Volunteer vlogs

Stories of the **Revolution**

School staff

trained

Annual Report

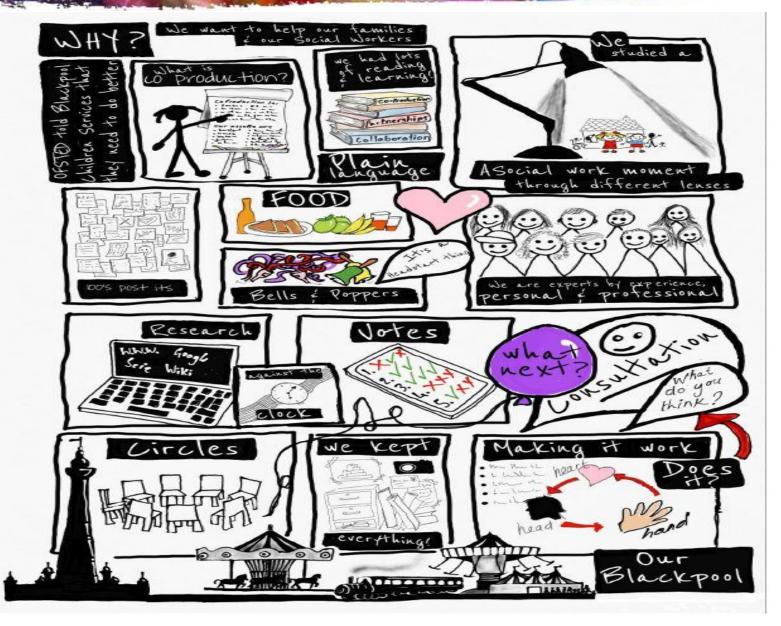
Weekly resilient move in local paper

> Social Media

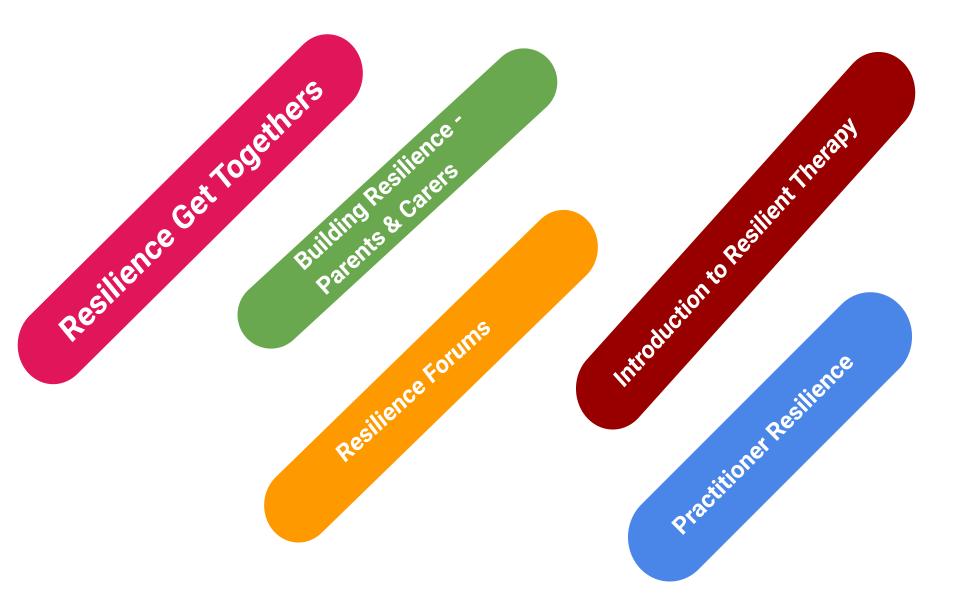
Big Resilience Get Together



Model of Practice



Training and Development Offer

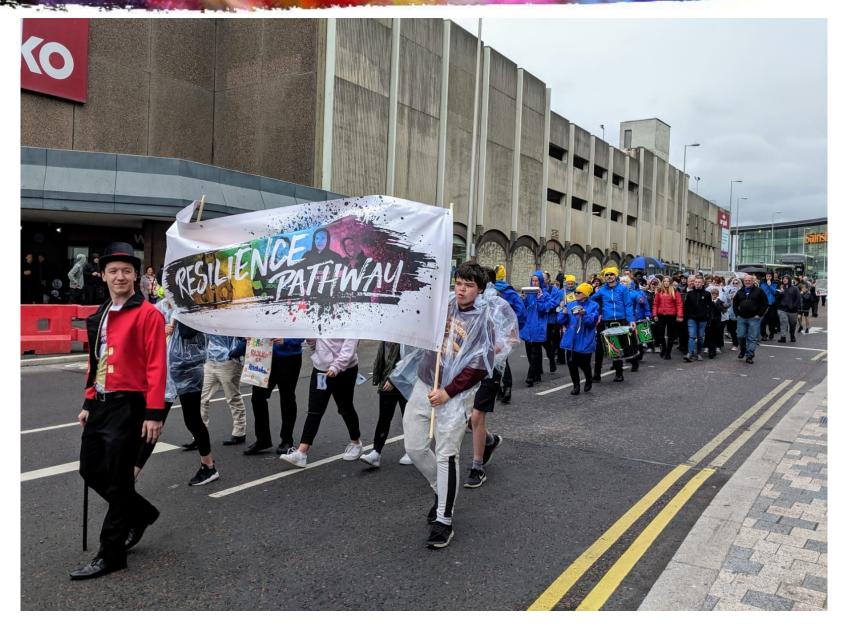


Parents and Resilience





Resilience Pathway



Value Creation Framework



Immediate Potential Revolutionary Enabling Strategic Applied Realised





Researching the Effectiveness of the Academic Resilience Approach (ARA) on Secondary School Exclusion Rates in Blackpool

> Rosie Gordon and Jemma Orange 6th September 2019

Universally Targeted Resilience Intervention

FRIEND FOR LIFE

Facilitating adult friends to offer a lifelong friendship for our children (in care) aged 10, 11 and 12 to have fun, go on adventures and be there for them through thick and thn, on the good days and the not so good days.



Taking counselling into the community, supporting young people at risk of self harm to choose the space they want to meet and talk in, walking, baking, sport... anything goes!



Speech Bubble are working alongside Educational Diversity to build communication friendly classrooms, so all young people are able to engage fully in learning.



Short term support for young people who self-harm and their families, ensuring they have the help they need in the community.

ACADEMIC RESILIENCE APPROACH

ARA is a whole school approach to resilience. An ARA facilitator will facilitate school led discussions, involving SLT, staff, students and parents, which results in an action plan to become a more resilient school where everyone can thrive. The implementation is supported by the facilitator working with the school's champion. Bespoke training for schools and communities of practice across Blackpool schools are part of the offer.

BOUNCEFORMARD

A whole class 10 week resilience course for all young people in year 5, building knowledge and developing young people's expertise in resilience practice for themselves, friends, family and school community.



Empowering The Revolution - comprehensive training for all stakeholders in the Resilience Revolution; Resilient Therapy for Pastoral Staff, Workforce Resilience, Resilience Get Togethers and the Academic Resilience Approach.



Supporting secondary schools to embed the resilience framework into their peer mentoring programmes, offering training to mentors and schools staff.



Where needed resilience coaches work alongside young people, parents and carers and school during year 6 until the young person is settled in year 7.

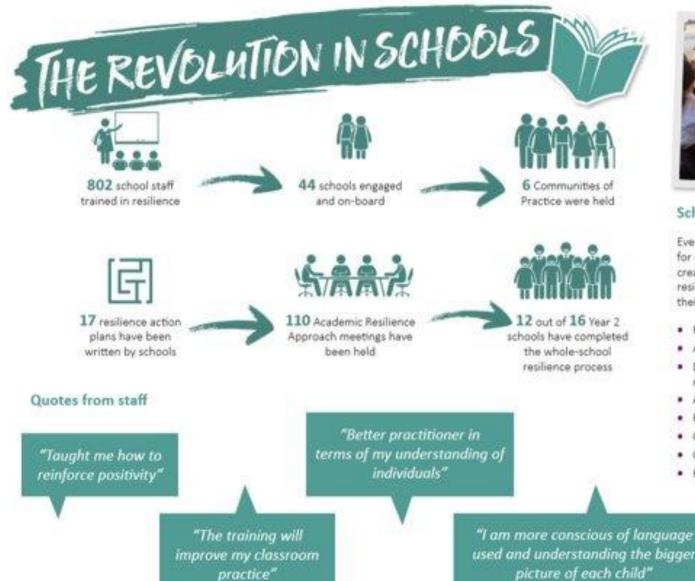


The Youth Engagement Team develop and facilitate co-production opportunities for young people, both in school and the community. The aim of co-production is to enable young people to be active participants in solutions and change. Young people have reported that being involved in co-production promotes feelings of achievement, a sense of belonging and purpose, confidence and aspiration.



A resilience coach will work alongside young people, schools, foster carers and social workers to support our children (in care) to remain in mainstream education where appropriate.

The Resilience Revolution in Schools





Schools Innovation Fund

Every school in Blackpool can apply for money from this pot to try out. creating ways of increasing their pupils' resilience. This year, 18 schools had their bids approved. Projects include:

- Forest schools
- After-school activities
- Dedicated spaces to improve resilience
- Anti-bullying programmes
- Recognising achievements
- Community cafe ٠
- Communication skills
- Helping pupils manage in class ٠

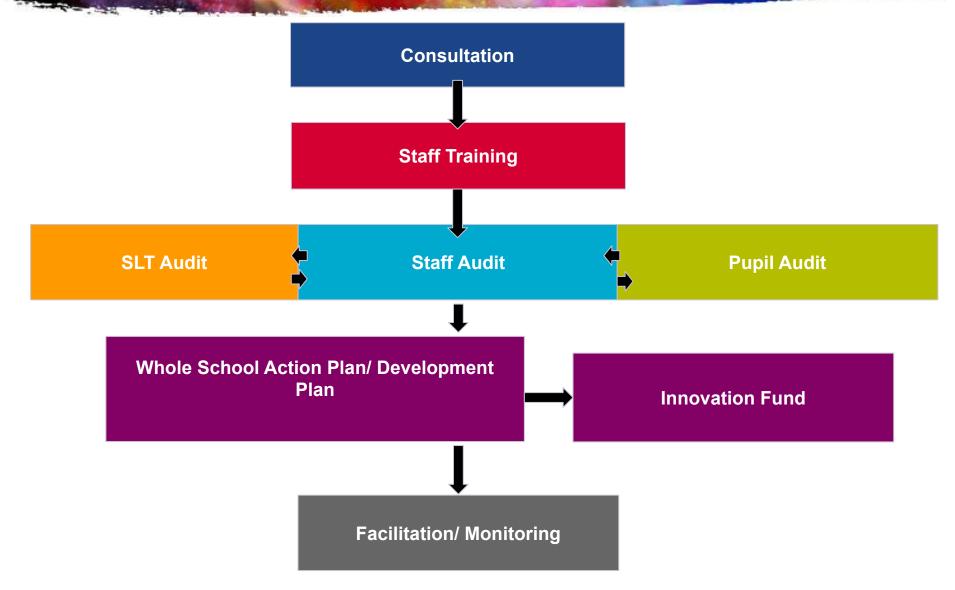
used and understanding the bigger

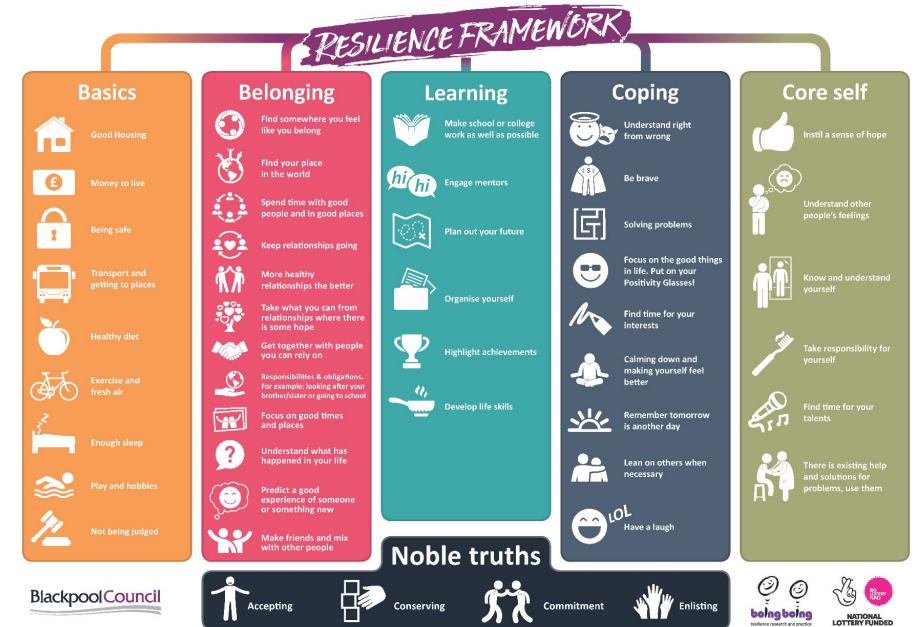
Longitudinal data collection

Data Collection Plan: Secondary Schools

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
2016/17	(original)		(snapshots)		
2017/18					
2018/19	(new)				
2019/20					
2020/21	(primary)				

Academic Resilience Approach





Adapted from Hart & Blincow with Thomas 2007 www.boingboing.org.uk. Co-designed with Marton Primary's Resilience Committee

Resilience Committees

- Young people are selected
- 6-8 sessions
- Resilience Framework based in Resilience Therapy (Hart, Thomas and Blincow, 2007)
- Value of their voice in school and sometimes they are the expert in the discussion as they have lived experiences of the situations
- Scenario based discussions
- Formulation of areas of strength and development
- Responses from schools
- Whole school action/development plan/SEF/Ofsted evidence
- Innovation fund

Giving Young People a voice

- Young people feel empowered to help others
- Young people become more engaged in their community
- Young people become positive role models for others
- Young people's views are acted upon and help to drive change in Blackpool



Evaluating the ARA

Exclusion in the U.K. has been referred to as an epidemic as well as a scandal (Parsons, 2018).

Fixed Period (suspension): when a pupil is not allowed in school for a fixed amount of time (including exclusions over lunch time) (Blackpool.gov)

Permanent (expulsion): when a child is permanently barred from the school premises and their name removed from the school roll (Blackpool.gov)

Research Questions

- 1. What are the key risk factors for fix-term and permanent school exclusion in secondary schools in a deprived area?
- 2. To what extent does the ARA have the potential to decrease secondary school exclusion rates in a derived area?
- 3. What are the key protective mechanisms and factors of exclusion?
 - a. at the school level: e.g. policies and behavioural management practices.
 - b. at the staff level: e.g. perspective of school climate, attitudes towards challenging pupils and staff wellbeing.
 - c. at individual pupil level: e.g. mental health, wellbeing and resilience.
- 4. How do these factors and mechanisms interrelate across the school system?
- 5. How does the implementation of the ARA impact on these factors and mechanisms?

Who is at Risk of Exclusion?

Systematic Review:

- Narrative synthesis
- N=18 papers included in final review

Results:

- Race/ Training + Relationships
- Behaviour/ Training + Relationships

Discussion:

Only a small amount of overlap between risk factor research and intervention research.

References

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Youth Engagement and Co-Production

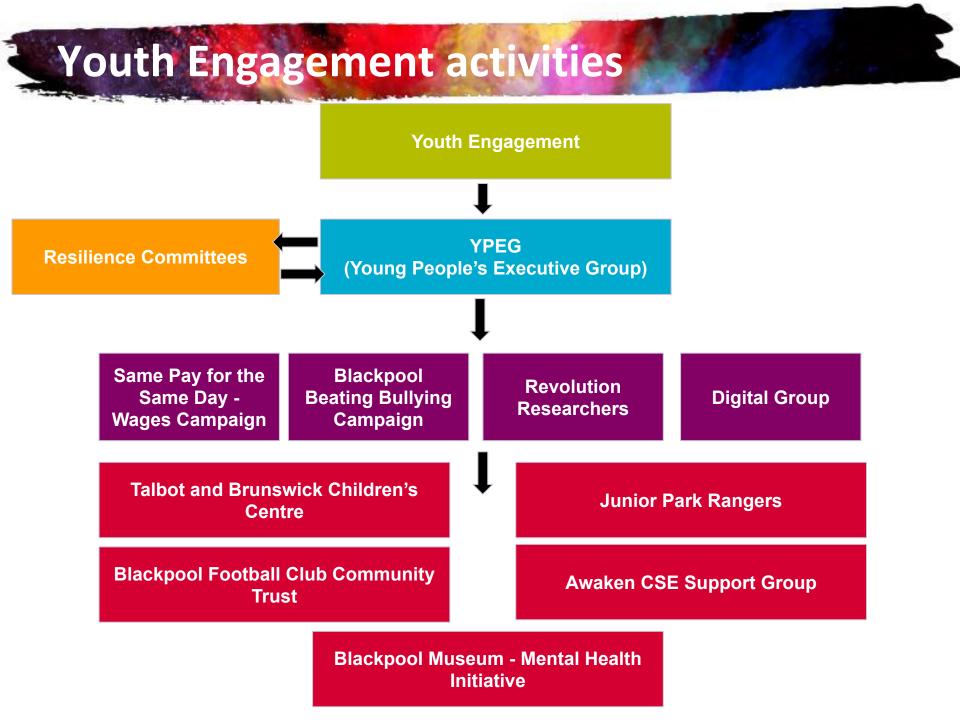
Alice Brown, Jemma Orange and Adam Williams 6th September 2019

Youth Engagement & Co-Production

- Co-production = working together to reach a shared goal
- We believe that involving young people as key stakeholders is mutually beneficial

Benefits for Resilience Revolution

Benefits for young people taking part



Adam's story



Research questions

- 1. What activities are delivered within youth engagement and who participates in them?
- 2. How is the co-production process being experienced by different stakeholders?
- 3. What impact does co-production have on young people?
- 4. What impact does co-production have on programme delivery and wider systems?
- 5. What will be the potential for sustainability of co-production within the whole system?

Data sources

<u>Quantitative:</u>

- Reach figures
- Regular surveys with young people (measuring self-esteem, self efficacy, civic engagement, and identity formation)
- Education data
- National survey data: Wellbeing Measurement Framework

Qualitative:

- Case studies and feedback
- Interviews with young people and internal staff
- Interviews with external stakeholders
- Focus groups with resilience committees

Reach figures

A total of **380** young people have taken part in Youth Engagement since the programme inception to July 2019.

This includes:

- **262** in Resilience Committees
- **41** in TAB youth group
- **30** in Young People's Executive Group
- 20 in Junior Park Rangers
- 13 in Digital Group
- **9** in Revolution Researchers
- 7 in Same Pay for the Same Day campaign group
- **4** in Blackpool Beating Bullying campaign group

NB: Some young people took part in more than one group

Young people's comments

"It has made me feel more important and listened to" "Things have improved at home, especially with my brother - my mum has noticed a difference in me"

"I think co-production has helped me work out strategies for daily life problems"

"It has helped me progress in overcoming challenges my anxiety has forced me to face, such as confidence around others"

"I feel a lot more confident in a way I can get my dream job"

Survey data

47 young people completed an initial survey in June/July 2019.

Youth Engagement group	Number of responses	
Resilience Committees	36	
YPEG	13	
Revolution Researchers	7	
Digital Group	3	
TAB youth group	2	

NB: Some young people took part in more than one group.

Survey data

Findings

On average young people attended 23 Youth Engagement sessions. The number of sessions they attended ranged from 1 to 159.

Higher number of sessions attended = higher self-efficacy and civic engagement behaviour

Significant correlation between this and:

- Self-esteem
- Civic engagement attitude
- Elements of identity development



Targeted HeadStart Blackpool interventions Barbara Mezes, Sharon Butler and Joshua Kania 6th September 2019





University of Brighton Centre of Resilience for Social Justice



Blackpool Council

Introduction



Target groups

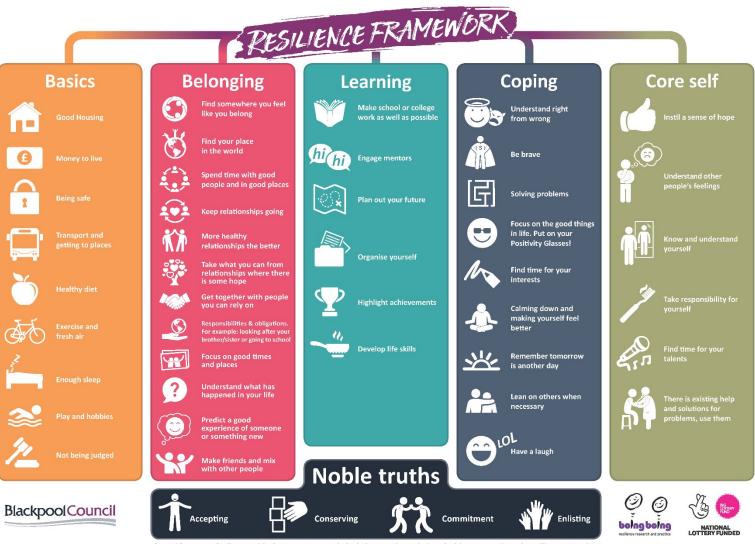
 Our children (looked after children), who are at risk of exclusion

 Young people transitioning from primary to secondary schools

• Young people who self-harm

Resilience Framework

1000



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Evaluation strategy

- The aim is to demonstrate what impacts the targeted interventions of HeadStart Blackpool are achieving
- We need:
 - a broad range of evidence: quantitative and qualitative
 - an approach to analysis that can identify to what extent our outcome data is produced by mechanisms related to the HeadStart interventions
- We are using:
 - mixed methods approach within an overarching explanatory framework
 - Value Creation Framework (Wenger-Trayner, et al., 2017)

Data that has been collected for service evaluation

Data	Purpose
Feedback forms and reach figures	To monitor how many people have accessed targeted support and what their experiences were.
Questionnaire data completed before, during (occasionally) and after targeted interventions	To understand changes in outcomes, such as wellbeing and resilience after participating in targeted interventions
Local authority health and education data, i.e. hospital admissions, attainment, attendance and exclusion rates	To explore the potential impact of targeted interventions on these outcomes.



Research data that we collect

Data	Purpose
Wellbeing Measurement Framework	Young people in transition is one of
in a new cohort in transition from	the key targets for Blackpool
primary to secondary school	HeadStart targeted interventions.
	This data will help understand the
	longer-term impact of activities on
	this cohort.
Repeated interviews with young	To understand experiences in depth
people in targeted interventions,	and to get explanatory insight.
their parents/carers and an involved	
professional	
Regular staff survey	To document staff experiences and
	reflections related to the everyday
	running of the programme,
	including targeted interventions
One off interviews/focus groups	To understand engagement, impact
with all other stakeholders	on community and workforce,
	system change and sustainability



Back on track

- Aim is to promote permanence and keep 'Our Children' within mainstream education, whilst it is appropriate
- Supported 31 young people age 10 16
- Story/experience

Back on track - Results to date

• 81% have remained in mainstream education

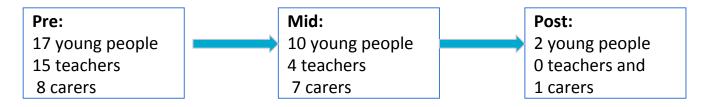
 19% have transitioned to another school suitable for their needs.

None of them have been permanently excluded from mainstream.

• 5% increase in attendance rate

Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ; Goodman, 2001) data for Back on track

• Low completion rate to date:



- No statistically significant difference in any of the subscales between pre and mid point
- Figures are moving in the right direction:

Completer	Pre % of young people with serious difficulties	Mid % of young people with serious difficulties
Carers	100%	29%
Teachers	86%	75%
Young people	65%	20%

Moving on Up- Group

- A 6 week group work programme delivered to young people in year 6.
- Young people identified as medium resilience.
- Aim is to help them develop their resilience to enable a smooth transition to High school.
- Since the beginning of the project we have supported 520 young people

Young people's quotes

- "Josh, Joanne and Lorie made me feel more resilient and more positive towards high school"
- "I loved it so much it was amazing"
- "I think you were great, if there was a 20 I would put a 20. Thank you for being there for me! I wish you could stay!"
- "Thank you for helping me I am ready for high school now thank you guys"
- "Thank you Josh and Joanne for making me feel more confident about high school. Thanks"

Moving on Up- Group work: Results to date

- Short Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (NHS Health Scotland, University of Warwick and University of Edinburgh, 2008)
- **364** young people (54% boys) completed the survey at baseline
- 73% (n=**266**) of them completed the follow-up survey
- Significantly higher rates of wellbeing after the group work sessions (M=25.03, SD=5.26; vs. M=26.56, SD=5.64; t(265)=-5.00; p < 0.001)
 - 60% of the young people reported higher wellbeing after the sessions.
 - The average increase in young people's wellbeing was 6%.
- Girls and boys did not differ significantly at baseline in their wellbeing score
- At follow-up boys reported significantly higher rates of wellbeing (M=25.16, SD=5.73; vs. M=27.89, SD=5.14; t(263)=-4.29; p < 0.001)

Moving on Up: One-to-one

- Young people who are identified as low resilience are offered a resilience coach.
- Support is offered through 1:1 and more recently also involving co- production groups.
- 1 year support
- Since the beginning of the programme, Resilience Coaches have worked with **263** young people.
- Just this year **182** young people have taken up the support.
- Story/experience

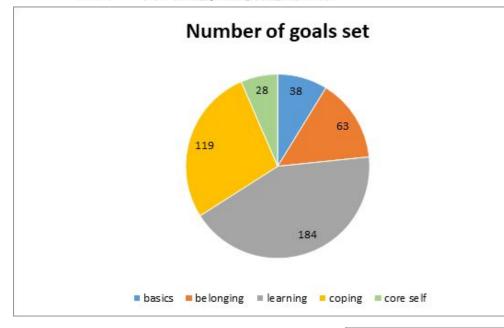
Moving on Up: One-to-one- Results to date

- Student Resilience Survey (SRS; Sun & Stewart, 2007) and Goal based outcomes (GBO; Law and Jacob, 2015)
- Goals are linked to the five sections of the Resilience Framework (Hart et al., 2007): Basics, Belonging, Learning, Coping and Core Self
- We have recently started collecting Me and My Feelings Questionnaire (Deighton et al., 2013) data to evaluate the impact on emotional and behavioural difficulties

SRS results- paired t-test results

SRS subscales	Baseline Mean (SD)	Follow-up Mean, SD	t -value (df)	P value
Community connection	14.89 (4.76)	17.62 (3.24)	-2.81 (36)	.008
Empathy	7.21 (2.11)	8.21 (1.91)	-2.34 (36)	.025
Goals and aspirations	7.22 (2.37)	8.59 (1.52)	-3.20	.003
Problem solving	9.89 (3.38)	12.17 (2.43)	-3.58 (35)	.001
Peer support	44.11 (14.18)	50.86 (12.36)	-2.29	.028

GBO results



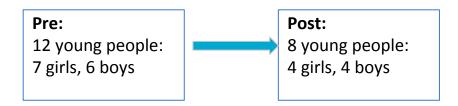
- **180** young people
- Total of **432** goals
- Between 1 and 7 each

Resilience Framework section	Average increase in scores
Core Self	71%
Coping	63%
Belonging	32%
Learning	20%
Basics	22%

Self-harm support

- 8-week support for young people who are or are at risk of self-harming.
- Resilience coach offers 1:1 support tailored to the individual.
- Referral only from the CASHER team.
- Since the beginning of the programme **81** young people have received 8 weeks of self- harm support.
- Between July 2018 and July 2019 44 young people have been supported.
- 83% of those supported have not represented to hospital with self harming thoughts or injuries. The average length of time between this report and the beginning of support was 385 days (Range:53-818 days)

• Low completion rate to date:



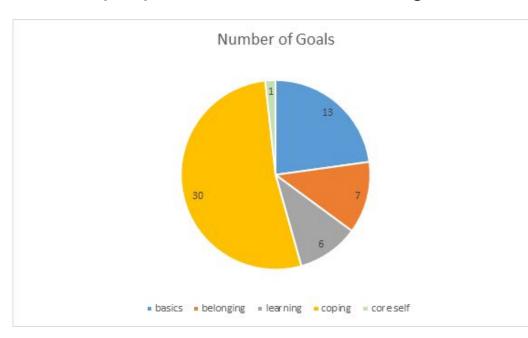
Girls reported significantly higher total difficulties at baseline, the difference was not significant at follow-up (M=23.50, SD=2.95; vs. M=14.83, SD=6.91; t(6.76)=2.83; p= .027)

- **71%** of young people reported significantly less:
 - problems with their peers (M=4.57; SD= 2.99; M=3.43; SD= 2.70; t (6)=3.36; p=.015)
 - impact (M=3.86; SD= 2.41; M=2.29; SD= 1.70; t (6)=3.27; p=.017) on their lives (family, leisure, classroom, friendships) following Self-Harm Support.
- Other subscales were not significant, but moving into the right direction:

SDQ score	Pre % of young people	Post % of young people
Serious total difficulties	83%	62.5%
Good prosocial behaviour	67%	87.5%

GBOs for self-harm

• 24 people have set a total of 57 goals, between 1 and 4 each.



Resilience Framework section	Average increase in scores
Learning	43%
Basics	40%
Coping	38%
Belonging	28%
Core Self	20%

















Deighton, J., Tymms, P., Vostanis, P., Belsky, J., Fonagy, P., Brown, A., ... Wolpert, M. (2013). The Development of a School-Based Measure of Child Mental Health. *Journal of Psychoeducational Assessment*, *31*(3), 247–257. <u>https://doi.org/10.1177/0734282912465570</u>

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Short Warwick Edinburgh Mental Well-Being Scale (SWEMWBS) © NHS Health Scotland, University of Warwick and University of Edinburgh, 2008, all rights reserved

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Conclusion

Fundamentals of the Resilience Revolution:

- Co-production
- Social justice approach
- •Shared language
- Innovation
- •Whole system change

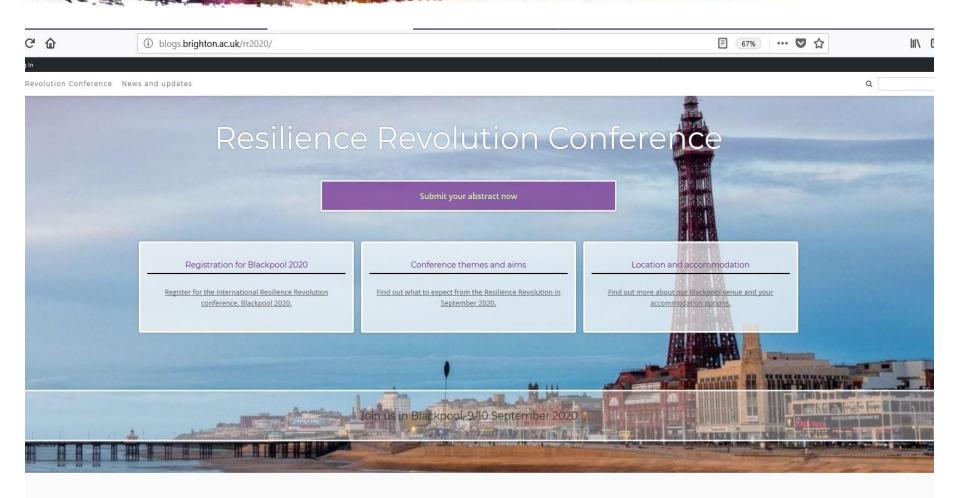
It is a complex intervention at the intersection of developmental and systems theories

Programme's complexity comes from.....

- •A system's interconnected parts (e.g., # of components)
- •Number and severity of adversity situations experienced by those delivering or receiving the intervention
- •Number of groups or organizational levels targeted by the intervention
- •Number and variability of **outcomes**
- **Degree of flexibility or tailoring** of the intervention permitted
- **Diversity** of people involved

www.mrc.ac.uk/complexinterventionsguidance

International Resilience Revolution Conference 2020



nternational Resilience Revolution Conference 2020

We look forward to welcoming you to our

http://blogs.brighton.ac.uk/rr2020/



Centre of Resilience for Social Justice: <u>www.brighton.ac.uk/crsj</u>

Blackpool HeadStart:

https://www.facebook.com/HSBlackpool/

