

Press Release

Young People learn to Beat the Cyber Bully

10 September 2013

Children and young people from across the Armagh City and District Area discovered new ways to 'Beat the Cyber Bully' at an event held on Friday 6 September.

Internet safety experts from the Beat the Cyber Bully organisation demonstrated practical tips to help children and young people keep themselves safe and make safe choices online.

The event was organised by the Children and Young Peoples' Partnership (CYPSP) Armagh Locality Planning Group which has identified the need to help children and young people stay safe online as a key priority.

Speaking at the event Deputy Lord Mayor of Armagh, Councillor Gerard Paul White commented: **"Events such as this are vital in tackling this major issue and it is important that all of the agencies work together to offer our young people advice and guidance on how to protect themselves against cyber bullying."**

Barry Ferris, Barnardos Youth Engagement Worker and member of the CYPSP Armagh Locality Planning Group explained: **"Technological advances in the past 10 years alone have changed how we behave in society. Computers, mobile phones and tablet devices connected to the internet are now part of everyday life and are dictating new patterns of social behaviour. That's why we need to ensure children and young people understand the risks and give them the skills to keep themselves safe online."**

The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP) is a multi-agency partnership, led by the Health and Social Care Board that includes the leadership of key statutory agencies and community and voluntary organisations that have a responsibility for improving the lives of children and young people in Northern Ireland.

If you would like to hear more about Locality Planning Groups or get involved, phone Julie Bolton on 028 3741 4456 or visit www.cypsp.org

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For further information contact Debbie McGrory, Communications Officer, Health and Social Care Board on Tel: 028 9032 1313 ext. 2056 or Tel: 028 3741 4464. Email: debbie.mcgrory@hscni.net For urgent Out-of-Hours enquiries please contact 028 9055 3740.

Photo caption:

Declan Corrigan (front left) the DJ for the evening, Presenter Elaine Montgomery, young people Charlotte Blunden and Tony Cavanagh, Deputy Lord Mayor Gerard Paul White and Julie Bolton (CYPSP Locality development officer). Back row: Barry Ferris Barnardos Youth Engagement Worker and David Smith from the PSNI.