

## Press Release- LAUNCH OF CHILL AND SPILL

The Carrickfergus Locality Planning Group is a partnership of Voluntary, Community and Statutory agencies who come together to plan for services for children and young people in the Carrickfergus Area. This group consulted with 400 local young people and it was identified that 34% of local young people were worried about school work, 32% about exams and 18% about family 'stuff' or personal problems.

On Thursday 20th September Roy Beggs MLA officially opened the Chill and Spill in Carrickfergus College. The purpose of the Chill and Spill is to offer pupils in Year 8 at Carrickfergus College the opportunity to have access to local service providers in a place they feel comfortable. This will provide them with the opportunity to discuss issues and concerns such as; Bullying, Making Friends, Stress over Exams, Concerns over moving to post primary school or issues arising from home or personal circumstances. It will also be a place where pupils can go, get involved in activities, play games, make friends in their year group, relax, chill, eat their lunch and have familiar faces to chat with.

The Chill and Spill Initiative is open to all year 8's at Carrickfergus College on Thursdays and lunchtime and aims to offer a safe place for young people to relax and speak to local service providers from the voluntary, community and statutory sector. Roy Beggs commented *'this initiative is an example of partnership working with schools and making a difference in the lives of local children and young people.'* Hedley Webb principal of Carrickfergus College said *'we are excited to be involved in this pilot and hope that it eases the transition for year 8s. To date young people are very excited about being involved.'*

Chill and Spill was developed by Carrickfergus Locality Planning group after further engaging with pupils from Carrickfergus College to identify what they would like to see in their school to ease the transition from primary to secondary. Feedback from pupils identified that they would like someone to talk to in a comfortable environment, and this is what we have provided.

“Attendance today at the Chill and Spill Launch from year 8 pupils is evidence of early success.’

For more information contact Selena Ramsey Locality Development Officer,  
Naomi Centre, 2 Cullybackey Road, BALLYMENA. 028 2563 6608.

[Selena.ramsey@northerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:Selena.ramsey@northerntrust.hscni.net).