

## Gloucestershire's Action on ACEs Conference

10 June 2021, Online

### Delegate feedback

#### Summary:

The Action on ACEs conference was held in a virtual environment, on the 10 June 2021. The conference welcomed keynote sessions from Professor Mark A Bellis, Beth Hughes, a panel of Trauma Informed Relational Practice experts (Molly Macleod, Juliette Tfofa, Samantha James and James Saunders) and Jaz Ampaw-Farr.

Alongside this there were 7 workshops held covering a broad range of topics from resilient communities to trauma informed relationships in secondary schools. Interspersed throughout the day were the first of the Action on ACEs Change Maker Awards. These awards recognised individual and organisations who have taken action on ACEs. They were awarded to The Nelson Trust, Belmont School, Vivien Mortimore, Sally Unwin and Michelle Richardson from NHS Maternity Services and PC Dean Saunders from Gloucestershire Constabulary.

The following graphic was created to explain the themes and content shared on the day:



- There were a total of 497 conference attendees.

## Evaluation:

Evaluation shows that the 2021 Action on ACEs Conference was extremely successful. Both quantitative and qualitative evaluation show that delegates found the conference to be inspiring, impactful, galvanising and informative. Headline stats show:

- **100%** of delegates rated the conference overall as excellent or very good
- **100%** of delegates felt energized as a result of the conference to join the AoA movement and take action on ACEs to a great or good extent
- **100%** of delegates expected to use what they had learnt at the conference in their work always or often
- 97% of delegates rated the conference speakers as excellent or very good
- 97% of delegates rated the structure and format of the day as excellent or very good
- 89% of delegates rated the conference organisation as excellent or very good
- 87% of delegates rated the workshop they attended as excellent or very good
- 81% of delegates felt the conference helped them to develop a greater awareness of ACEs and resilience to a great or good extent.

*Today has been amazing - some reassurances about our current approach but some fantastic ideas to take away too...Thank you so much for everybody that have shared their knowledge today*

*Thanks so much for today - inspirational, informative, and has left me with lots of practical tips, ideas and plans to use in my work. Thank you!*

*Such brilliant speakers and fantastic content - thank you for a great conference!*

*Today has been fantastic! Truly inspirational. Thank you!*

*Truly Amazing! I can't wait to get to school and see my kids tomorrow!*

## Evaluation

1. **To what extent did the Conference help you develop a greater awareness and understanding of the role of resilience in tackling ACEs?**
  - To a great extent 38%
  - To a good extent 43%
  - To some extent 14%
  - To a small extent 5%
  - Not at all
2. **To what extent did you feel energised to join the movement and take action on ACEs as an individual or organisation?**
  - To a great extent 65%
  - To a good extent 35%
  - To some extent
  - To a small extent
  - Not at all
3. **What key messages did you take away from the key note speakers?**
  - Always Available Adult ACE Relationships
  - The importance of working together, the importance of a safe adult and also language uses when talking about children, young people.
  - That ACE's affect every one of us. We have a duty to become fully Trauma aware and that it should inform our practice throughout all key agencies.
  - The importance of having an adult to talk to
  - How important it is to be available to young people individually and as a college. And to remember we dont know what they have had to do before they arrive.
  - To deliver inspiring training to all staff - Jaz's comments about really being seen by her school hero was so important.
  - Be kind, how important building resilience is, self care is important, using a Trauma Informed approach helps
  - remember often the smallest action has an impact
  - Always available adult To look after myself 'Botherdness'
  - We need to safeguard our mental health and wellbeing so we can maintain personal resilience which enables us to feel strong and positive in our work. Help others to do the same Be kind, listen
4. **Will you be using the information obtained through this Conference in your personal life? If so, how?**
  - Yes - 'everyone is trying their best'. Be a vault and find a vault. Looking beyond the behaviour of family and friends. Be bothered
  - I will try to but not sure how
  - Yes, not to judge a book by its cover
  - I liked the 'everyone is doing the best that they can' moto! I used this during a frustrating shopping trip!
  - Yes, in lots of ways

- Luckily I do not have experiences of ACEs but this knowledge will impact my NOW and Future life!
- To look after myself
- Improve work/ life balance Eat lunch away from the screen Switch the computer off earlier at the end of the day Be kind Listen



**5. Will you be using the information obtained through this Conference in your work life? If so how?**

- Importance of Self Care as a team Importance of taking the time to build relationships with children, young people and families - try not to be influenced by 'process' Encourage workers that there is so much power in the relationships they create
- Yes where possible
- By increasing the importance of ensuring a child/young person has an adult they can go to
- Always be available for a chat
- The implementation of 2 x annual meetings with class teacher regarding children's mental health and training parents on ACES is going to be a priority too.
- I hope to have a meeting with my head teacher to discuss this
- I own 4 nurseries and plan to embed knowledge of ACES into my settings and hope that we will become better at supporting children at their time of need
- Many ways
- Continue to be the approachable face to all the children across my school. Continue to be the funny, silly teacher who doesn't mind laughing at herself and not taking myself so seriously!




**6. How often do you expect to use the information obtained through this Conference in your work?**

- Always 42% 
- Often 58% 
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never

**7. Overall, how would you rate the 2021 Action on ACEs Conference?**

- Excellent 89% 
- Very Good 11% 
- Good
- Satisfactory
- Poor

**8. How would you rate the following:**

- Quality of the speakers
  - Excellent 86% 
  - Very Good 11% 
  - Good 3% 
  - Satisfactory
  - Poor





- Quality of the workshop you attended
  - Excellent 46% 
  - Very Good 41% 
  - Good 11% 
  - Satisfactory
  - Poor 3% 
- Structure and format of the day (Number of speakers, Length of conference)
  - Excellent 92% 
  - Very Good 5% 
  - Good 3% 
  - Satisfactory
  - Poor
- Conference organisation (booking process and event platform)
  - Excellent 84% 
  - Very Good 5% 
  - Good 11% 
  - Satisfactory
  - Poor

**9. What other areas of information do you want to see at future events?**

- Examples of where practice has made change
- Possibly the correlation between attachment/ brain development in unborn babies and very young children and ACES
- Unsure
- Maybe some more success stories or stories on how to implement some of the theories.
- More how to workshops - with material that can be magpie'd would be great!
- Much talk about Schools, but as an Early Years provider I know the first 1000 days of a child's life are key and the years pre school are vital. It would be good to feature more reference to early years!
- I am interested in any CPD available
- Maybe a few more examples of how to implement some of the ideas into schools (simple how to bullet sheet).
- None it was fantastic!

**10. Marketing and communications**

**How did you hear about the Conference?**

- Internal communications from your own organisation 46% 
- Friend / Colleague 27% 
- Emailed invitation 20% 
- The Action on ACEs website 5% 
- Twitter 2% 