

Inspiring dementia action in Bristol schools

Dementia can have a significant impact upon a family and community, as well as the person who is living with dementia. We aim to raise dementia awareness amongst our pupils in Bristol schools and to create positive social change, so that we can become more dementia friendly as a city and beyond. By teaching pupils about dementia, we can improve knowledge and understanding, as well as empower individuals to make a positive difference to people's lives. You can play a part in helping us to achieve this.

"It takes a society to beat dementia." (Alzheimer's Society, 2025)

Did you know ..?

There are approximately 1 million people living with dementia in the UK.

A diagnosis of dementia is made every 3 minutes.

1 in 2 people will be affected by dementia in their lifetime.

Approximately 1 in 3 pupils know someone living with dementia.

1 in 3 cases of dementia could be delayed or prevented.

How is this relevant to your school?

There are clear links to the curriculum and OFSTED framework. Through learning about dementia, pupils will be encouraged to become more active and responsible citizens.

Teaching pupils about dementia empowers them to make healthier lifestyle choices, as well as supporting their own and others' wellbeing, now and in the future.

Through education, we are helping to create a dementia friendly workforce for the future, where young people will be able to have a positive impact on lives in communities.

Educating pupils and the wider school community about dementia increases understanding and changes attitudes, resulting in reduced fear, stigma and isolation for people living with and affected by dementia.

What I can offer your school:

- * A free assembly raising awareness of dementia
- * A free Dementia Friends session for pupils, deepening knowledge and understanding and enabling social change
- * Free bespoke sessions with visitors sharing their lived experience of dementia
- * A range of free sessions for staff and / or parents

What next?

If you would like more information, please contact me;



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The Dementia Wellbeing Service is a partnership between Alzheimer's Society and the NHS, delivering dementia support services to people affected by dementia in Bristol.

Feedback from Schools

Waycroft Academy, YR story

"Children were encouraged to join in with the session throughout. Really clear vocabulary which was taught at the children's level. Sally was encouraging and used lots of positive language with the children."

Bristol City College, Post 16 Dementia Friends and enrichment session

"It was great to see the students all engaged and really keen to join in, even those that were originally hesitant. The empathy suit really gave students an awareness of what some individuals with dementia may experience. This gave them an idea of how difficult some tasks can be and led them to think of solutions together. A very valuable session."

Waycroft Academy, Y3 Dementia Friends session

"Fantastic sessions. The children were engaged and asked respectful questions. Sally was very informative and supportive."

CLF INSET, Staff Dementia Friends session

"I learnt that it is still worth making beautiful memories- even if they don't last long, the feeling of happiness will remain."

Oasis Academy Brislington, Year 7 and 8 assembly

"The assembly was very informative without being too complex. It was engaging, interesting and thought provoking, with upcoming activities on how the students can get involved."

Westbury-On-Trym C of E Academy, Y5 sessions with lived experience of dementia

"The children thoroughly enjoyed a really important session which should be part of the curriculum; Educating children on how to look after their community and the people within it. It was lovely seeing how the children demonstrated such kindness, warmth and understanding. Invaluable."

Collegiate, Y9 presentation with lived experience, of dementia

"The visitors were fantastic. The session was pitched perfectly for the age group. It was open, honest and moving, but also uplifting – motivating our students to take action."

Westbury-On-Trym C of E Academy, Y6 session with parents

"This was a fantastic session. Sally worked with her usual energy and enthusiasm to engage the Y6 children in the planning session and there was great preparation for delivery to the parents on the day. The session was well received by the parents and it has been an opportunity to share our work with the parents."

Redland Green, Y7 Dementia Friends session

"The session was delivered very well and gave greater knowledge for students learning this earlier in life. I learnt so much as a teacher from your talk too."