

Practice profile:

Sue Farmer, Business & Research Projects Manager at [Midlothian Women's Aid](#), talks about supporting pupils affected by domestic abuse.

What does Midlothian Women's Aid do?

We support women and children who have experienced domestic abuse and we also campaign to raise awareness.

What is unique or particularly good about the work your organisation does?

We work closely with professionals in education, social work and health to ensure every child receives the most suitable support and, more specifically, we focus on improving the understanding of the impact of domestic abuse on children. We believe that improved understanding of this issue will have a positive impact on a child's emotional wellbeing.

We also raise awareness of domestic abuse at schools in Midlothian with workshops and presentations.

Tell us about your Dreamtime project.

We received funding for a creative arts project, Dreamtime, to enable us to work with the children who access our service in a safe and supportive environment using creative arts therapies to improve confidence and emotional resilience. The project supports the Curriculum for Excellence Health & Wellbeing policy and follows Getting it Right for Every Child guidelines. The Dreamtime Project facilitates research into how participation in the creative arts can help to improve the confidence and emotional resilience of children. The research is being undertaken by Midlothian Women's Aid in collaboration with Dundee University.

Do you have any links to websites or documents for further information?

We have published a book of the children's creative work from Dreamtime (poetry, drawings, etc) and we have funding to distribute the book to every school in Edinburgh & the Lothians to raise awareness of domestic abuse and its impact on children.

To order the book or for more information telephone 0131 663 9827 or go to our website at www.midlothianwomensaid.org.

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