# WHITE RIBBON DAY

**Thank you for planning to mark White Ribbon Day which takes place on the United Nations' International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women: Wednesday 25th November.**

We hope this pack will help you to mark the day in your school. The 16 days following the 25th November are designated as 'days of action to end violence' and you may want to choose one of these days to mark White Ribbon Day instead.

White Ribbon UK is the leading charity that works with men and boys, campaigning and educating to change the cultures that lead to abuse and stop violence before it starts. Our work White Ribbon is relevant throughout the year. Please don't feel limited to taking action on White Ribbon Day itself, there will be many opportunities where the message can be discussed and promoted.

**Our new schools resources - suitable to be used across the school year will be launched later this year and available free to White Ribbon Ambassadors and Champions.**

You may be interested in becoming a White Ribbon Accredited school, or a supporter organisation. Members of your staff may want to consider becoming White Ribbon Ambassadors or Champions.

**The need to raise awareness**

For schools to play a part in ending violence against women requires a long term, whole school, approach. White Ribbon can be part of that, with its approach that challenges gender stereotypes, the behaviours associated with those stereotypes, and promotes equality.

**What You Can Do**

These suggestions for primary schools have been brought together by the team at White Ribbon UK to enable you to mark White Ribbon day in a way that is accessible and suitable for young children. Activities suggested raise awareness of the White Ribbon symbol and also use our "Hands are not for hurting" message, which has proved popular with schools.

White Ribbons, lanyards, balloons, hands are not for hurting posters and other awareness raising materials can be bought from the White Ribbon UK website:
https://www.whiteribbon.org.uk/shop

Please consider fundraising for our organisation as part of your activities. We are passionate about developing more in-depth resources for schools and this will only be possible with further funding.

info@whiteribbon.org.uk 01422 417327 Unit 28 The Town Hall, St Georges St, Hebden Bridge, HX7 7BY

# FOR STAFF

Encourage everyone on the staff team, especially men, to make the White Ribbon Promise: to never commit, excuse or remain silent about male violence against women. This can be done online at:

https://www.whiteribbon.org.uk/promise

Staff may consider becoming a White Ribbon Ambassador or Champion. More information about these roles can be found out at:

https://www.whiteribbon.org.uk/ambassadors-and-champions

Use White Ribbon Day to consider your school's implementation of the Government Statutory Guidance, Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education, and/ or to review your policies and practice around domestic abuse.

# WITH YOUR CLASS

Introducing White Ribbon Day

White Ribbon Day is marked all over the world because people want to stop women and girls being hurt, just because they are women. If people wear a White Ribbon they are showing that they want women and girls to be safe wherever and whoever they are.

# How to mark White Ribbon Day

Add the White Ribbon symbol to school letters to parents/carers, alongside a suitable message such as: 'We are marking White Ribbon Day on 25 November with the message 'Hands are not for hurting'. This is the international day to end violence against women. If you are experiencing violence you can call the 24-hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline on 0808 2000 247.'

Make a powerful poster and display it for everyone to see! Write in the middle: 'Hands are not for hurting'. On a personalised handprint, each student finishes the sentence: 'Hands are for...' By writing/drawing something positive that hands are for (e.h. Comforting a friend, shaking hands to say hello, eating delicious food, planting flowers). Stick the handsprints all around the outside of the message. Alternatively, hang the hands on a line or in a window.

Choose a space outisde that you can see from a window above (e.g. playground below a classroom). Work together to spell out 'hands' using items such as boxes/ sports equipment OR draw a giant white ribbon in chalk. Take a photograph from above or film everyone holding their palms in the air

Invite in your local police or fire station to talk about how they help people in danger (find out if your local fire engine is displaying a White Ribbon!)

Make white ribbons from cloth/ribbon ( you could play calming music while working). Give them to friends, family and your wider community to raise awareness.

Add WRD's frames and banners on your school's social media.

Add the 'White Ribbon Supporter' badge to your school's website.

Always make sure children, parents and staff know where they can find help and support.

White Ribbon UK is the working name of White Ribbon Campaign Ltd,
a registered charity in England and Wales (No. 1123874) and a company limited by guarantee (No. 05617302)

# THESE HANDS
## ARE NOT FOR HURTING.

**whiteribbon.org.uk**

# Promise to never use, excuse or remain silent about men's violence against women.

thank you for your support

WHITE RIBBON .ORG.UK

END MALE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

charity no. 1123874 company no. 05617302