

## **Press release – embargoed until 00.00hrs 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**27<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

### **Holocaust Memorial Day – Bridging Generations**

Today we remember the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust and those murdered during more recent genocides such as those in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

The theme for 2026 highlights that we all have a responsibility to remember, to listen to and acknowledge the stories from survivors and those impacted by such travesties.

The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust has developed age-appropriate learning resources for schools to encourage discussion and reflection amongst children and young people on discrimination, persecution and stereotypes.

Learning from the past promotes an understanding of how genocides happen, how to prevent them and build a safer future by fostering inclusivity and challenging prejudice.

The NHS has a zero tolerance approach to hatred, antisemitism, Islamophobia, racism or any form of discriminatory behaviour, with a commitment to ensure that all staff and service users feel safe, valued, respected and supported, regardless of their background, faith or identity.

Schools have a crucially important role in tackling discrimination, racism and faith-based bullying through zero tolerance, promoting inclusivity, diversifying the curriculum, and ensuring all staff are equipped to challenge discriminatory language and behaviour amongst pupils.

Recent research indicates that one in five pupils experience frequent face to face bullying<sup>1</sup>, and the Office for National Statistics and Ofcom report 19.1% of children aged 10 to 15 experienced online bullying in the year ending March 2023.

School nurses have a key role in supporting schools to develop policies promoting inclusivity as well as providing support to pupils.

### **The ABPN believes that**

- Every child and young person should have access to a school nursing service for confidential advice and support
- All nurses who come into contact with children and young people should have the skills and confidence to tackle discrimination and promote inclusivity.

**The Association of British Paediatric Nurses calls on the Government to urgently invest in school nursing services to ensure equitable access to a qualified school nurse<sup>1</sup> by every child and young person across the UK.**

“Children rely on us to build a fairer, safer world. This responsibility belongs to every children’s nurse. By standing together against hatred, leading with courage and compassion, and upholding every child’s dignity, we can be the force for change they deserve.”

Kath Evans, Children’s Nurse and Deputy Chair.

### **Notes for editors**

The term child refers to infants, children, young people and young adults up to 25 years of age

The ABPN recognises that primary and community services, as well as child public health and mental health services, including school nurses and health visitors also have a key role in supporting children, young people and families.

The ABPN is the oldest children’s nursing association in the world, established in 1938. Our wide membership includes experts in clinical practice, education, leadership and research.

[www.abpn-uk.com](http://www.abpn-uk.com)

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/attachments/Pupil%20bullying%20wellbeing%20and%20school%20experiences%20in%20schools%20in%20England%202024.pdf>

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<sup>1</sup> A qualified school nurse is a registered nurse or midwife who has completed an additional, specific qualification known as the Specialist Community Public Health Nursing - School Nursing (SCPHN - SN) programme.