



## PEER MENTORING AT BEXHILL ACADEMY

The Peer Mentoring Scheme at Bexhill Academy started in October 2003 as a response to the Network Learning Community focus of “Developing the Student Voice”. A period of two months was spent researching Peer Mentoring schemes at other schools, and the potential impact they could make in giving students a sense of responsibility and purpose.

The project has developed considerably since this initial pilot project, and has received the Princess Diana Anti-Bullying Award for the work it does on 7 occasions. We currently have over 12 Peer Mentors, each receiving the CHiPS training programme led by the Co-Coordinator and current Peer Mentor team. New recruits also have the opportunity to attend further training days on issues such as handling bullying issues, supporting reading and family work.

Students in Years 7 and 8 have the opportunity to work with a trained Peer Mentor if they are being bullied, are experiencing peer relationship issues or need support with their reading. Self-referral and referral by teachers to the scheme is available.