



PEER MEDIATION

Mediation Is:

- In peer mediation, students talk face to face in a safe and supportive discussion led by trained peer mediators.
- The process is organized, structured, and systematic and aimed at producing positive actions and outcomes.
- Peer Mediation does not take the place of normal consequences when inappropriate behavior has occurred.



Mediation is NOT:

- About deciding who's 'wrong' or 'right'
- About apportioning blame
- About focusing on the past any more than is necessary to help pupils work out a way forward
- About offering advice; mediators support pupils to work out a way forward which is mutually acceptable

What situations can be mediated?

- Arguments
- Teasing
- Harassment
- Name-calling
- Rumors
- Conflict with peers
- Verbal exchanges
- Misunderstandings
- Horseplay

Which situations **should not be** mediated?

- Issues that involve sensitive information
- Issues that involve the police
- When the dispute involves an adult
- When one or both parties have a history with bullying or violence

Mediation Helps To:

- Define the problem from their point of view
- Identify and express their feelings and needs
- Hear the feelings and needs of the other person
- Acknowledge each person's viewpoint
- Create solutions
- Agree a course of action
- Evaluate progress

What are the benefits of Peer Mediation for the school?

- Peer Mediation promotes a positive classroom environment and school culture.
- Peer Mediation assists disputants and mediators to learn more effective conflict resolution strategies for future situations.
- Peer Mediation eases time pressure on staff by allowing some issues to be resolved by Mediators.

What are the benefits of Peer Mediation for the school?

- Gives teachers time to teach, and students time to learn.
- Can reduce violence, vandalism, and absenteeism as well as suspensions or punitive actions.

Peer Mediators Can Also:

- Help train other peer mediators
- Help in promoting the peer mediation program
- Participate in PBIS TFT

How does it work?

- For peer mediation to work effectively, at least one party involved in the conflict must be willing to make contact with the peer mediation facilitator
- Parties may be referred by outside person
- After process is explained, both parties must agree to take part

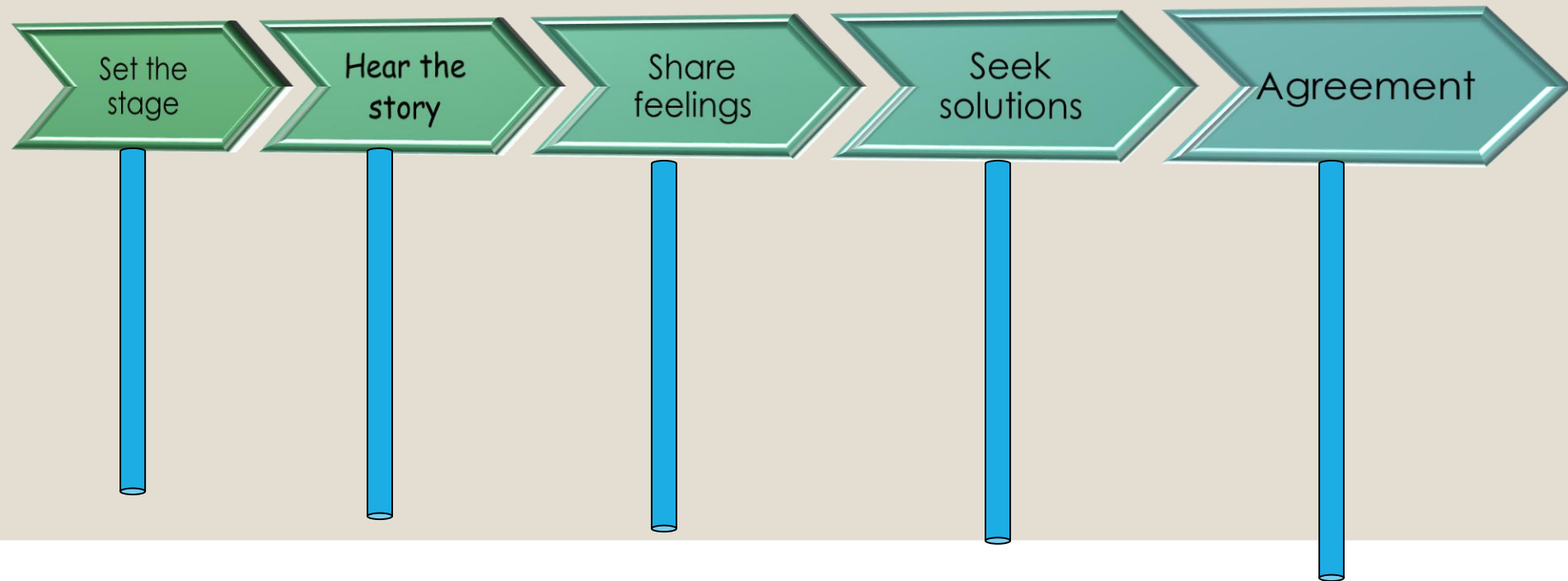
Training Peer Mediators

- Training in interpersonal relationships
 - active listening skills
 - facilitating discussions
 - step by step process
- Collaborative style
 - explore alternatives, identify issues
 - think about consequences and how they will affect the relationship

Steps to peer mediation

- Referral
- Meet the first person
- Meet the second person
- Carry out the Peer Mediation and Work together for an agreement
- Follow-up

Signposts to a Peer Mediation



References

- Education.gov (n. d.). Peer Mediation [PPT File]. Retried from <https://education.gov.scot/improvement/.../inc32peermediationteacher.ppt>