

MindWise
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MindWise is a leading local mental health charity offering support and services to those affected by severe mental illness and other mental health difficulties. We have been operating in Northern Ireland for over 30 years (previously we were known as Rethink in Northern Ireland and before that the National Schizophrenia Fellowship). As well as providing direct support to those affected by mental illness, we also have a dedicated public affairs function which campaigns and lobbies to raise awareness of mental illness in our communities and to challenge the stigma and prejudice that often surrounds this major health issue which at any one time affects 1 in 4 adults and 1 in 5 young people.

In 2007 we ran a major anti-stigma campaign across the province, in 2008 we toured a play called 'Cuss the World' to raise awareness of mental health in terms of suicide prevention, and in 2009 we commissioned and toured a play called 'Life Goes On?' which showed the impact of mental illness on the wider community through drama.

We have secured funding from the Big Lottery to take 'Life Goes On?' out again in October 2011 in the Belfast area in partnership with Spanner in the Works Theatre Company and Belfast Health & Social Care Trust (BHSCT). The format of the event would be a mental health talk, followed by a performance of the play, followed by a question and answer session featuring individuals who have been affected by mental illness.

We are delighted to bring this event to the Belfast Model School For Girls free of charge, (note there are two swear words featured in the script and self harm and suicide are both included). The school will also make counsellors available during and after the play should any girl wish to speak to them,

Date: Monday 3rd October
Time: 2.00pm (pupils only) 7.00pm (open to the public all parents invited)
Venue: Assembly hall

Please return the reply slip to the form tutor by Friday 30th September 2011 and if you have any further queries please contact Mrs Janice Clarke in school on 90718111.

Best regards
Patricia Downey / Spanner in the works theatre company

REPLY SLIP

I do/do not give permission for my daughter to watch the 'Life goes on' drama on 3rd October 2011.

Signed _____ (parent/guardian) Date: _____

