Scotland Chikwawa Health Initiative

Health Promoting School Orientation

Community links
“Good health supports successful learning. Successful learning supports health. Education and health are inseparable. Worldwide, as we promote health, we can see our significant investment in education yield the greatest benefits.” -

Dr. Desmond O’Byrne
(Health Promotion, Non communicable Disease Prevention and Surveillance, WHO)
Remember the Purpose of HPS

- To enhance educational outcomes
- To facilitate action for health by building health knowledge and skills in the cognitive, social and behavioural domains
Aims for Health Promoting Schools

The aim of this orientation is to:

- To enhance educational outcomes
- To facilitate action for health by building health knowledge and skills in the cognitive, social and behavioural domains
Health Promoting School

School Health Policy

School Based Health Services

School Physical Environment

School Social Environment

Individual Skills and Competencies

Community Links
Recap of the previous HPS session...

What are the principles to be followed when implementing HPS?

1. Child welfare and protection
2. Sustainability
3. Community participation and involvement
4. HIV and AIDS
5. Advocacy
6. Confidentiality
Now that we know all about HPS and the need for it, we need to take action. We should be able to:

• Establish links with necessary stakeholders
• Maintain and improve the relationships with stakeholders
• Promote community participation
• Promote proper communication procedures with stakeholders.
Community links...

- Refers to the partnerships formed between the school and the wider community.
- It recognises the central role of families in supporting learning, contributing to school activity and influencing school policy and procedures.
Community links...

- Schools using a *health promoting schools* approach make sure opportunities are created to maximize family and student participation in school decision-making.

- Schools actively solicit parent involvement and engage community resources and services to respond more effectively to the health-related needs of learners.

- Appropriate consultation and participation with these stakeholders enhances the health promoting school and provides students and staff with a context and support for their actions.
Community links...

- This component also refers to the mutually supportive relationships that exist and can be built between the school and organizations, businesses, government and nongovernment agencies.

- These groups can improve outcomes for students through the provision of information, resources, and other services.
How to establish these links?

Activity 1 (discussion and planning)
• As a team share roles first (Chairman/lady, spokesperson, secretary)
• Identify the links available
  • How were they established?
  • How do you communicate with them?
  • How are the relationships now?
  • How best are we doing it?
  • Where are we failing?
  • Way forward?
How to establish these links?

- List the names of stakeholders you know.

- Identify their roles and responsibilities. (check also the roles and responsibilities of other stakeholders on the given handout).

- Identify the available links we have with stakeholders.
  - The strength of the relationships
  - Weaknesses
How to establish these links?

• Lets take the action plan and identify where links are required.
• Identify the stakeholders which are dealing with such issues.
• Make goals and objectives for community links
• Design and plan activities which will bring about required community links.
• Do not forget to set time frames.
• Always communicate with the other groups about your plans and activities.
Relationship between community links and other HPS elements.
How to maintain established links?

- Agree with stakeholders a standard procedure for communication.
- Make activities which will include the links.
- Monitor and evaluate the links made regularly.
- Monitor and evaluate the outcome of the links.
Let's make sure that....

• We have identified stakeholders where links are supposed to be established from the action plans.

• Shared responsibilities

• Agree on time frame