Caring for Our Community – Understanding Dementia

Session A

Caring is:

- Doing your very best with your school work, or with a job that you’ve been asked to do.
- Giving attention to someone who needs help or is sad.
- Looking after yourself by eating the right things and keeping yourself clean.
- Knowing that there are people in our community who need our care and understanding.

Learning Objectives:
Knowing that there are people in our community who need our care.

Suggested Resources:

Video clip of an interview with a dementia sufferer:
https://www.dementiafriends.org.uk/ [available 03/15]

Script:

“Do you have a good memory? Our memory tends to be very good when we are young but some people suffer from dementia which makes it very hard for them to remember things. Dementia sufferers are not always old people. We’re going to watch an interview with Gina who is a dementia sufferer. Please listen carefully so that you will understand how to help Gina if she needed your help.”

Suggested Activities:

Role Play: Children work in pairs with one partner taking the role of a shopkeeper and the other a customer with dementia, who hands over too much money for an item. Select two children to take the above roles and play them out in front of the class. Freeze the action from time to time to ask the class how the actors feel, or how caring could be shown. Please remind the class to be respectful in their portrayal of the dementia sufferer.

Note Taking: Children watch the interview again and take notes on the challenges that dementia creates for Gina. These will be used in next week’s activity.

Character Coaching

Guidance:

How will you show your customer that you care about them and want to help?

Meaningful Praise:

Well done for showing such a caring attitude to your customer.

Correction:

Please be respectful and serious so that when you meet someone with dementia you will know how to care for them.

Plenary:

Ask a selection of children to name one new thing they have learnt from listening to Gina.