



**loudmouth**  
education & training through theatre

**Theatre in Education Tour  
to support  
Puberty & Transitions Education  
In  
Rowley Regis Learning Community  
Primary Schools  
Academic Year 2019-20**

Written by Caroline Bridges, Business Growth Manager, Loudmouth Education & Training

October 2019



## Introduction

This summary report is feeding back on a theatre in education project that took place during the Autumn term of 2019-20. The project was to use Loudmouth Education & Training's Theatre in Education (TIE) programme My Mate Fancies You, to support the Relationships / RSE & Health Education in targeted primary schools in the Rowley Regis Learning Community in Sandwell.

The tour was funded by Rowley Regis Learning Community and we would like to thank Kylie Raybould, Business Manager at Old Hill Primary School for her support.

Established in 1994, Loudmouth Education & Training is a theatre company that supports schools and other organisations with their PSHE. Loudmouth's aim is to help children and young people to have healthy, happy and safe relationships. The company uses drama, interaction and discussion to explore issues that affect children and young people. Loudmouth's education and training programmes are proven to help learners to challenge attitudes, gain new skills and increase knowledge.

*"Confident delivery of growing up without the children and teachers feeling awkward."*

*Year 6 Teacher, Reddal Hill Primary School*

*"They helped my class know more about puberty and not to be scared as it is a normal thing that happens."*

*Pupil*

## Summary of Activity

The tour took place in the Autumn term 2019-20. Loudmouth ran a total of 11 sessions for 600 Year 6 pupils. We ran a 90-minute session for single form schools and a drop-down format for schools with more than one Year 6 class, consisting of an hour-long performance to the whole year group, followed by consecutive 20-30 minute workshops with a class at a time. The session delivered were as follows:

Date of Session	Venue Name	Number of Pupils
04-Sep-19	Rowley Hall Primary School	90
05-Sep-19	Blackheath Primary School	60
05-Sep-19	Old Hill Primary School	30
05-Sep-19	Reddal Hill Primary School	60
05-Sep-19	Temple Meadow Primary School	60
06-Sep-19	Grace Mary Primary school	30
06-Sep-19	Springfield Junior School	60
10-Sep-19	Highfields Primary School	60
10-Sep-19	Oakham Primary School	60
17-Sep-19	Brickhouse Primary School	30
20-Sep-19	Tividale Community Primary School	60
		<b>Total: 600</b>

Each school was also provided with a set of online lesson plans that accompany the programme.

*"It has built my confidence up for when puberty happens in the future."*

*Pupil*

## Summary of Evaluation

- During the Autumn term of 2019-20 Loudmouth Education & Training ran a total of 11 sessions of My Mate Fancies You on puberty & transitions.
- We visited 11 different primary schools; Old Hill, Rowley Hall, Reddal Hill, Temple Meadow, Tividale, Oakham, Grace Mary, Brickhouse, Blackheath, Highfields and Springfield.
- We worked with 600 children in Year 6.

- There was a marked rise in the pupils' knowledge of growing up and puberty. Before the session, 48% of pupils said their knowledge of growing up and puberty was 'Good' or 'Excellent'. As a result of the session, this increased to 79%, with 19% more pupils rating their knowledge as 'Excellent'.
- After the session, 11% more pupils stated that puberty is a normal part of life. There was also a decrease in the number of pupils who felt worried or embarrassed about puberty after the session.
- After the session, the number of pupils citing Childline as a source of help and support around the issues rose by 67%.
- 96% of pupils said they would recommend the programme for next year's pupils.
- 97% of pupils said they thought the My Mate Fancies You session helps people to learn about growing up and puberty.
- 77% of the young people stated they felt that after seeing My Mate Fancies You they would act or behave differently in the future, such as knowing who to talk to, feeling less worried or embarrassed, feeling more prepared and having a better understanding of puberty.
- 94% of staff rated My Mate Fancies you as "Excellent."
- 82% of staff said the session had made a "Considerable" or "High" impact on them as staff.
- 94% of staff stated that the session made a "Considerable" or "High" impact on the pupils.
- 100% of staff stated that they felt the Loudmouth session would add value to the school's Relationships RSE & Health Education.
- 100% of staff said they would recommend the programme to other schools or organisations.

## Conclusions and Recommendations

The tour has proved to be very successful and clearly had a positive impact on the children, young people and venue staff. The quality of the TIE programme was commented upon with the vast majority of children recommending the work for future year groups and 100% of teaching staff saying they would recommend the work to other organisations.

The evaluation report shows that the TIE programme run by Loudmouth greatly increased the knowledge and confidence of the participants on the issues involved and hugely increased school staff's confidence in delivering further work on the issues.

The report also demonstrates that this approach of using TIE is a powerful way to communicate key messages about who to go to for support around relationships. The key organisations that we flag up during the sessions came out top in the evaluation.

In conclusion the learning from the programmes both for the participants and staff was very beneficial. All of the learning objectives being met by the vast majority of the participants, who learnt key information, skills and positive attitudes on puberty and growing up to support them to have healthy and safe lives. We look forward to having the opportunity to work with Rowley Regis Learning Community again in the future and would recommend that the schools are consulted with a view to repeating sessions in the next academic year, 2020/2021 as we approach statutory RSE (Relationships & Sex Education).

**For more information about this tour or any of Loudmouth's work**  
[www.loudmouth.co.uk](http://www.loudmouth.co.uk) [info@loudmouth.co.uk](mailto:info@loudmouth.co.uk) 0121 446 4880