



loudmouth
education & training through theatre

**Theatre in Education Tour
to support
Safeguarding Education
In
Primary Schools on the Grace Mary to
Lion Farm Big Local Area, Sandwell
Academic Year 2019-20**

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Introduction

This evaluation report is feeding back on a theatre in education project that took place during the academic year of 2019-20. The project was to use Loudmouth Education & Training's Theatre in Education (TIE) programme Helping Hands and their Youth Violence Assembly, to support the Personal, Social, Health & Economic Education (PSHE) and safeguarding in targeted primary schools on the Grace Mary and Lion Farm estates in Sandwell.

The tour was funded by Grace Mary to Lion Farm, Big Local (National Lottery Community Fund) and we would like to thank Helen Trueman (Development Co-ordinator) 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.



"The children were fully engaged throughout. Q & A session gave them a chance to develop their understanding."

Teacher

"Because by watching this it will tell people the signs that you are looking for when you feel like you are being groomed. Also, it tells people what to do if they are in this situation."

Pupil

1) Summary of Activity

- During the Autumn term of 2019-20 Loudmouth Education & Training ran a total of three sessions of Helping Hands on safeguarding and three assemblies on Youth Violence.
- We visited three different primary schools, Grace Mary, St James CE and Oakham, working with children aged 8 – 11.

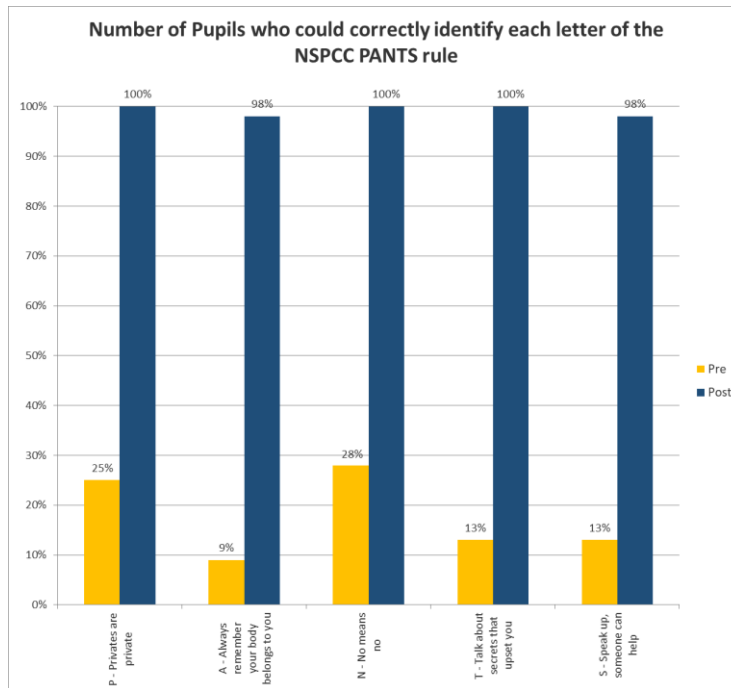
Date	Venue Name	Programme	Number of sessions	Year Group	Number of participants
16-Sep-19	Grace Mary Primary School	Helping Hands	1	4 & 5	60
16-Sep-19	St James CE Primary School	Helping Hands	1	5	60
19-Sep-19	Oakham Primary School	Helping Hands	1	6	60
3-Oct-19	Oakham Primary School	Youth Violence	1	5 & 6	60
7-Oct-19	St James CE Primary School	Youth Violence	1	5 & 6	120
9-Oct-19	Grace Mary Primary School	Youth Violence	1	5 & 6	60
	Total		8		420



"The actors were fantastic. They put into perspective real life scenarios; scenarios the children may/may not have seen before and they made it clear that this could happen." - Teacher

2) Pupil Evaluation of Helping Hands

- Before the Helping Hands session 7% of pupils could correctly name all 5 parts of the NSPCC PANTS rule. This rose to 89% after the session. After the session 100% of pupils could name 4 or more parts of the PANTS rule.



- The most popular service that pupils could identify after the session was Childline. This was the key service highlighted in the session. Awareness of Childline rose from 39% to 73% as a result of the Helping Hands programme.
- 100% of pupils stated that they felt that the Helping Hands session helps people to stay safe.
- 66% of pupils stated that as a result of the Helping Hands session they would act differently in the future, such as avoiding speaking to strangers online, using the NSPCC PANTS rule and to help other people who might be affected, by telling an adult.
- 100% of all pupils evaluated as part of this tour said they would recommend the Helping Hands programme to the next year's pupils.

"It makes more children confident to speak to an adult."

"Because they said you should not talk to people that you do not know or never do something that you feel is uncomfortable."

3) Pupil Evaluation of Youth Violence Assembly

- After participating in the Youth Violence Assemblies, 100% of pupils stated that they agreed with the statement 'It is normal to NOT carry a knife'.
- As a result of the Youth Violence Assemblies, 98% of pupils stated that they felt the programme had increased their knowledge of knife crime and County Lines.
- The key organisation to which Loudmouth signpost pupils is Childline. As a result of the session, awareness of Childline rose from 26% to 84%.
- 96% of pupils stated that they felt that the Youth Violence Assembly helps people to stay safe from knife crime.
- 64% of pupils stated that as a result of the Youth Violence Assemblies they would act differently in the future, such as being more aware, not doing things for strangers and behaving more sensibly.
- 98% of all pupils evaluated as part of this tour said they would recommend the programme to the next year's pupils.

"Fun drama and allows you to question the characters."

"I now know even if you carry a knife, your life is in more danger."

"Because it helps people to understand knife crime and county lines, what the warning signs are and how to get help if they are unsure or want to get out of it."

4) Staff Evaluation

We asked staff who were present during the sessions to complete post session evaluations.

- 75% of staff rated the programmes as excellent.
- 100% of staff said they would recommend the Loudmouth programmes they saw to other schools and organisations.
- 92% of staff stated that the programmes had 'Considerable' or 'High' impact on their group, with 50% stating it had 'High' impact.
- 92% of staff stated that the programmes had 'Considerable' or 'High' impact on staff, with 58% stating it had 'High' impact.
- Staff were asked to complete the following sentence:

I feel the Loudmouth session will add value to the school's Relationships / RSE and Health Education by.....

Here are some of the answers they gave:

"Providing information/ advice, opening awareness to situations and encouraging children to speak to adults."

"Providing children with a different stimulus to engage with important but sometimes difficult issues."

"Allowing children to see what can/is happening that could potentially harm them emotionally/physically."

"Reminding pupils how to stay safe and that telling a trusted adult is really important."

"Opening children's eyes to how knife crime can affect everyone around the victim."

"Providing a safe environment to talk about sensitive issues."



Conclusions and Recommendations

The tour has proved to be very successful and clearly had a positive impact on the children and school staff. The quality of the TIE programmes was commented upon with 100% 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 programmes run by Loudmouth greatly increased the knowledge, skills 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, particularly when exploring very sensitive topic areas. 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 to support them to have healthy and safe lives. We look forward to having the opportunity to work with Grace Mary 2 Lion Farm again in the future.

For more information about this tour or any of Loudmouth's work
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