



No Crime – Get a Life!

MAGISTRATES WORKSHOP

During this session, three practising magistrates will facilitate a mock sentencing trial, with participating pupils role-playing the defendant, one of the defendant's parent and the two "wingers" on the magistrates' bench.

Through this workshop pupils will learn about court procedure, what sentencing options are available to a magistrate and what factors may be taken into consideration when sentencing, such as the nature of the charge, the plea, the pre-sentence report and any previous convictions.

In addition to the role-play, the whole group will be involved in discussion about the appropriate sentence for the offender.



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HM PRISON SERVICE WORKSHOP

This session will be delivered by a Prison Officer and a prisoner, and will introduce pupils to the reality of life "inside" from the point of arrival through the first week of custody.

The session begins with a talk by a Prison Officer on reception procedure, a description of a prison wing and cell, and the basic rights and routines of a prisoner.

This is followed by the personal account of a prisoner, covering the same period of time, but with a focus on the feelings and emotions experienced.

There will be time after these two presentations for questions.



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VICTIM SUPPORT WORKSHOP

Drawing on examples from the "Kiddo" DVD and using interactive techniques this session explores the following questions:

Who is a victim and who is most at risk of being a victim?

How do victims feel? What emotions might they experience?

How can we help a victim?

What can we do to reduce the risk of becoming a victim?

The session will finish by outlining people and agencies that are there to help victims, to give those who need support the knowledge of where to go for help and the confidence to ask for it.



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CRIMINAL JUSTICE BOARD WORKSHOP

Through playing “The Justice Game” on a 3x3m vinyl board laid out on the floor, pupils are introduced to the different agencies involved in the criminal justice system and are given an overview of the role each one plays.

By landing on “Community Spirit” spaces they draw cards which illustrate the positive and negative interactions that young people might have with the system, such as successfully completing a community service order, or failing to pay a fine, and are rewarded accordingly by moving backwards or forwards on the board.

Winners will receive a prize.

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POLICE WORKSHOP

After a brief introduction to the potential lifelong impact of an early brush with the law, this session focuses on identifying which kinds of behaviours are anti social and which are criminal.

Using examples from the “Kiddo” DVD, pupils are asked to comment on behaviour displayed in the film, placing the acts on the continuum from acceptable through anti social to criminal, and to consider alternative choices that the protagonists in the story could have made at each point.

The session concludes with an explanation of the associated continuum of sanctions available to the police, from the Juvenile Letter Scheme through ASBOs to Final Warnings.

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YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM WORKSHOP

This session calls on pupils first to identify with the offender by asking “If you were Kiddo*, what would you be feeling when you first went to prison?” and “What would be the first thing you would want to do on release?”

After small group discussions and whole group feed back on these questions, pupils are then asked to imagine they are the YOT worker and to consider what needs to be done for Kiddo to reduce the risk of re-offending.

Finally the whole group will discuss whether their plans are realistic and whether they are likely to be successful.

* Kiddo is the central character of a film that pupils watch at the start of the workshop day. © 2005 Curlyman Productions