

Case Study

Envision School Team



Team: A Way Out
Region: London
Age range: 16 - 17 years old
Issue: Domestic Violence



What issue did they tackle and why?

This team was made up of young people from a mixture of schools and colleges across Southwark.

The team were all very passionate about the issue of domestic abuse and decided to focus on encouraging equality and respect in all relationships, and highlighting the fact that abuse can be psychological as well as physical.

What did they decide to do?

To make use of their sports skills, they designed a workshop that used sport and drama to educate students about healthy relationships with domestic abuse charity Tender. These were delivered to Year 9 pupils at Globe Academy with great success.

Staff at Tender were so impressed with the team that they invited them to their national conference where they showcased their work as an example of best practice and also showed off their designs for campaign t-shirts and wristbands.

Since then, some of the team have continued working on the issue through a social media campaign, encouraging young people to discuss their thoughts in a safe, open forum.



What is the Envision Schools Programme?

Envision works with teams of young people based in schools and colleges. Starting with the question, "What do you want to change?" teams are supported to investigate issues relevant to their lives as local and global citizens. Led by their own ideas and supported by staff and trained volunteers, teams plan and implement a project to tackle whatever issue they are passionate about - learning to be young leaders and gaining vital employability skills along the way.

For further information please contact Emma Bird
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Achievements

Delivering workshops

The team took their workshops on healthy relationships to a local secondary school and had great feedback. Students said they had learned a lot.

Taking part in a national conference

As part of Tender's national conference, they were able to pass on what they had learned.

Set up and managed their own social media campaign

As well as the workshops, the team are influencing young people through their innovative use of social media

Skills and Knowledge Gained

Time management and motivation

Some team members faced a real challenge in organising their time so they could get to the weekly meetings after school. Once they had managed it they learned a real lesson in discipline and perseverance.

Facilitation skills

All team members went through a 10-week programme with Tender in order to design and deliver their workshop to younger years. Through doing so, they learnt valuable skills such as workshop planning, active listening and facilitation skills. For many, the most significant gain was in their personal confidence, which allowed them to lead some brilliant sessions.

Leadership

Although no one person was nominated group leader, different members of the group took on clear leadership roles at different times. They learnt to motivate, to organise and to manage compromise.

Testimonials

"The group wowed the audience (and Tender) at our conference. They were just fantastic and we have already had good feedback from other people who attended!"
Jacki Hall, Campaign Coordinator at Tender

"This team was hugely diverse in background, skills and interests. One of the things that I feel developed most over the course of the programme was their ability to discuss and negotiate ideas in such a mixed group.

What was also brilliant to see was that after the initial project was over, three members (Pippa, Elina and Demi) all asked to carry on and take their ideas further. I am sure that all three will go on to be great leaders."

Patrick Taylor, Envision support and Programme Manager

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