

STREET WISE

A Chance to Change Lives
Street **Wise** - challenging
and powerful
'theatre in education.'

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A Chance to Change Lives. Street Wise - challenging and powerful 'theatre in education'.

Young people care about their environment. Littering, vandalism or fly-tipping harms their neighbourhoods and communities. There may be serious consequences for any young people who are drawn in to this kind of anti-social behaviour. Getting Street Wise could change their lives.

The Street Wise initiative has been developed and piloted for the Kent Partnership, who promote safer and stronger communities. It is delivered by the Clean Kent Campaign which aims to make Kent a cleaner county and one we can all enjoy and be proud of.

The word on the street. Street Wise...

- Is a 50 minute challenging and stimulating drama experience for up to 60 students per session.
- Is designed for young people aged between 12 and 14 years, attending secondary school in Kent.
- Dramatises the meeting of a convicted offender with their victim in a controlled mediation session. There is audience participation as the drama unfolds.
- Stimulates debate and challenges attitudes and behaviours towards the local community.
- Complements existing resources and educational initiatives within Kent, and adds value to the curriculum, particularly Citizenship and PSHE.
- Focuses on socially responsible behaviour, attitudes, risk taking, consequential thinking and conflict resolution within an environmental crime setting.
- Street Wise promotes self respect and a positive attitude towards local communities.

Street Wise in schools

- Street Wise sessions are offered free of charge to secondary schools in Kent. Maximum of 60 students per session.
- Schools may have more than one session, usually on the same day.
- Teachers are to be present with their students during the session.
- Street Wise has been fully risk assessed for health and safety.

Where multiple sessions are delivered spanning the lunch break, the Street Wise group will leave the site during this time. A full risk assessment can be obtained from the Clean Kent Co-ordinator, Melanie Price, email: melanie.price@kent.gov.uk

- Students and teachers are asked to complete feedback forms to ensure we continue to deliver the highest possible service for the duration of the Street Wise programme.

Why and how was Street Wise developed?

Litter, fly-tipping, graffiti and vandalism are seen as key drivers to anti-social behaviour, crime and people's fear of crime. The Clean Kent Campaign is committed to investing in education, in addition to enforcement activity, community projects and promoting key messages through advertising campaigns.

- A theatre-based education session was devised, in order to highlight the core Clean Kent messages in a way that would engage young people.
- Lead by KCC and Kent Fire & Rescue Service, we formed a multi-agency project group to develop and drive the delivery of the Street Wise initiative.

- To ensure messages are delivered appropriately, we developed Street Wise in consultation with young people and key partners.
- We ran successful pilots for 10 weeks in secondary schools across Kent.
- A professional director manages the programme, which involves professional actors.
- Serving offenders were involved in the development of Street Wise to give the project and its characters accuracy and realism. It also provides offenders with the opportunity to contribute positively to society.
- A DVD has been made to promote Street Wise to schools and to support broader communications activity. The DVD includes testimonials from students, teachers and the partners involved.

Stuart Skilton of Kent Fire & Rescue Service says:

// It was important for us to be involved from the start, because we see the consequences of anti-social behaviour, such as rubbish fires. We need to get to grips with these issues, and the best way is by educating our young people.

To find out more about the Clean Kent Campaign, visit: www.cleankent.com or call 0845 3450210



Kent Fire & Rescue Service



With partnership support from HM Prison Service, Kent Police, Maidstone Borough Council, Crown Prosecution Service, KCC Eco-Schools