



loudmouth
education & training through theatre

Evaluation Report
Loudmouth Education & Training

**HELPING
HANDS**

**Theatre in Education Programme on
Staying Safe for Year 5 & 6**

Funded by Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust, 2016/2017



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Introduction

This summary report covers Loudmouth Education & Training's tour of their theatre in education programme Helping Hands, which took place from May 2017 to September 2017. This project was funded by Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust.

Helping Hands is designed specifically for Years 5 and 6 and uses drama and discussion to support schools' safeguarding education and help children aged 9 – 11 years old to stay safe in their interactions with others. This well researched programme draws on Loudmouth's decades of experience to help children to spot signs of abuse and know where they can go for support.

Teaching staff in the participating schools are able to access a term's worth of Loudmouth's online lesson plans to accompany the programme. The lesson plans help teaching staff to prepare the pupils for the theatre in education sessions and also to run follow up work to consolidate the pupils' learning.



Established in 1994, Loudmouth Education & Training is a theatre company that supports schools and other organisations with their Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education programmes. 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 safeguarding and relationship issues that affect children and young people. Loudmouth's education and training programmes are proven to help children and young to challenge attitudes, gain new skills and increase knowledge. Loudmouth has been creating and running programmes on Child Sexual Exploitation since 1998.

"It makes you feel safe because it tells you things, like your body is yours and you have the right to feel safe."

Year 6 pupil

Executive Summary

- From May 2016 to September 2017 Loudmouth Education & Training delivered their interactive TIE programme, Helping Hands in primary schools in the Walsall area.
- Loudmouth ran a total of 13 sessions of Helping Hands.
- We worked with 497 young people aged between 9 and 11 years old.
- After the Helping Hands session 95% could correctly name all 5 parts of the NSPCC PANTS rule.
- 100% of pupils stated that they felt that the Helping Hands session helps people to stay safe. Reasons given included that it makes children more aware of the NSPCC's PANTS rule and where to seek help and support including ChildLine.
- 70% of pupils stated that as a result of the Helping Hands session they would act differently in the future. Ways given included being more likely to help their friends and talk about a worry to someone and know who to talk to. They would also look at how to stay safer online, behave in a better manner towards others, remember the PANTS rule and know if they were being put in an abusive or unsafe situation.
- Loudmouth signposted all of the pupils to ChildLine as a support service by delivering ChildLine's key messages during the session and distributing a signposting card to every pupil at the end of each session. At the end of the session the children were asked to name 3 people or places that can offer help or support if they do not feel safe. 81% of the pupils identified ChildLine, 72% identifies parents and 64% identified teachers.
- 100% of teaching staff rated the Helping Hands sessions 'above average' or 'excellent', with 86% stating the programme was 'excellent'.
- 100% of staff recorded that they would recommend the programme to other schools.
- 100% of the teaching staff stated that Helping Hands had increased the groups' knowledge of the issues of unsafe and abusive relationships.
- 100% of teaching staff stated that Helping Hands had taught their pupils new skills around staying safe.
- 100% of teaching staff stated that Helping Hands had increased their groups' knowledge of relevant services that can offer help or support to children affected by these issues.
- 100% of staff said that Helping Hands had increased their confidence in delivering work around the issues. 86% of staff stated that Helping Hands had 'greatly' or 'considerably' increased their confidence.

Recommendations

The evaluation results from the pilot tour have proven that the programme has been very successful and clearly had a positive impact on the pupils and school staff.

All of the learning objectives (see page 14) were met; the children learning the importance of telling a trusted adult if they have any worries or concerns or don't feel safe, having increased skills to spot signs of abuse including grooming / child sexual exploitation (CSE) or abuse (CSA). The children also had increased knowledge of the NSPCC PANTS rule and other ways to stay safe, and increased knowledge of relevant and appropriate services that can support children if they do not feel safe e.g. ChildLine.

The evaluation results clearly show the success of the tour, showing that Helping Hands increases the knowledge and skills of the pupils on abusive and unsafe relationships. It is very positive to see the increases in staff's confidence in delivering further work on the issues once they have had Helping Hands in to their school. All staff said they would recommend the programme to other schools and rated the programme highly.

As a result we would like to get this programme out to more primary schools in the Walsall area.



Summary of Activity

The tour took place in May to September 2017. A total of 13 sessions were delivered for children aged 9 - 11 years, in nine Walsall primary schools. The schools received the sessions free of charge. A total of 497 children participated, predominantly from Year 6. Walsall NHS agreed for two of the schools to have the programme for Year 5 also. Loudmouth ran different formats to accommodate schools that have one class per year group and schools that have more than one class per year group.

Date	School	Number of sessions	Year Group	Number of Pupils
26-May-17	Goldsmith Primary Academy	1	6	50
07-Jun-17	Edgar Stammers Junior School	1	6	42
15-Jun-17	Rivers Primary Academy	1	6	30
15-Jun-17	Rough Hay Primary School	1	6	49
20-Jun-17	Salisbury Primary School	1	6	38
21-Jun-17	Old Church CE Primary School	1	5	45
23-Jun-17	Old Church CE Primary School	1	6	45
23-Jun-17	St Giles Primary School	1	6	34
10-Jul-17	North Walsall Primary School	1	6	30
12-Jul-17	Moorcroft Wood Primary School	1	6	30
18-Jul-17	Moorcroft Wood Primary School	1	5	30
26-Sep-17	Rivers Primary Academy	1	6	29
28-Sep-17	St Giles Primary School	1	6	45
	Total:	13		497

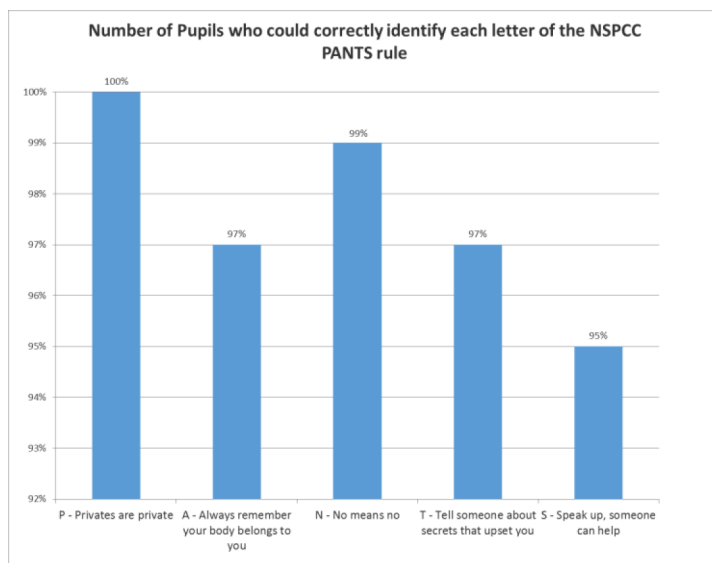
"I will be more careful on social media and will make sure I tell an adult if something is not right."

Year 5 pupil

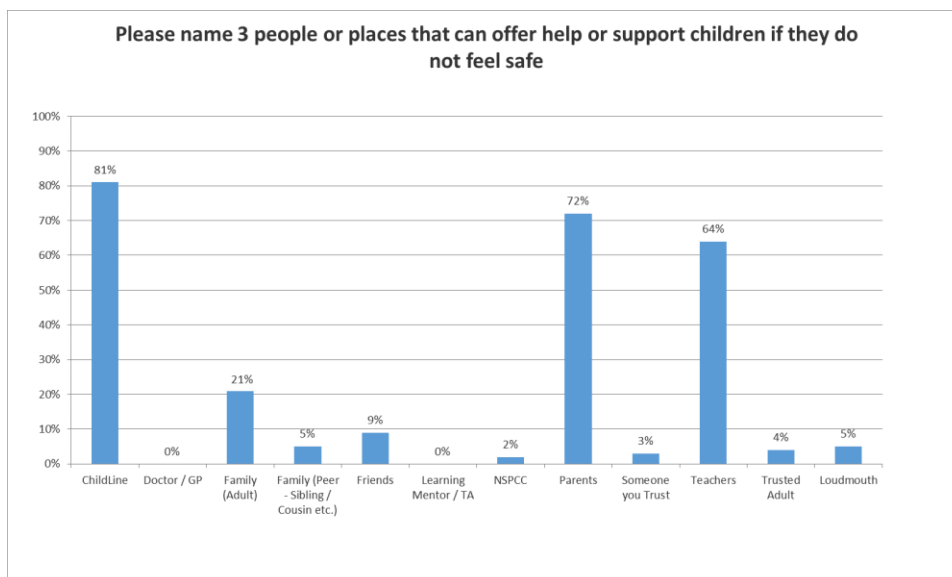
Pupil Evaluation Results

Pupils from all the participating schools were asked to fill in evaluation forms after the Helping Hands sessions. 244 pupils filled in the forms.

After the Helping Hands sessions the children were asked to identify what each of the letters of the NSPCC PANTS rule stood for. 100% could identify P stands for "Privates are private" and 97% knew that A stood for "Always remembers your body belongs to you", 99% could identify N stands for "No means no". 97% stated that T stands for "Tell someone about secrets that upset you" and 95% stated that S stands for "Speak up, someone can help".



The children were asked to name 3 people or places that can offer help or support children if they do not feel safe. 81% of the children named ChildLine. 72% identified parents and 64% identified teachers. During the sessions we signpost the children to ChildLine, teaching them the phone number and giving key facts about the service. We also encourage the children to talk to a trusted adult in school, the community or in their household.



After the session, 100% of the children recorded that they felt that Helping Hands helped children to stay safe.



When asked why, here are some of the reasons they gave:

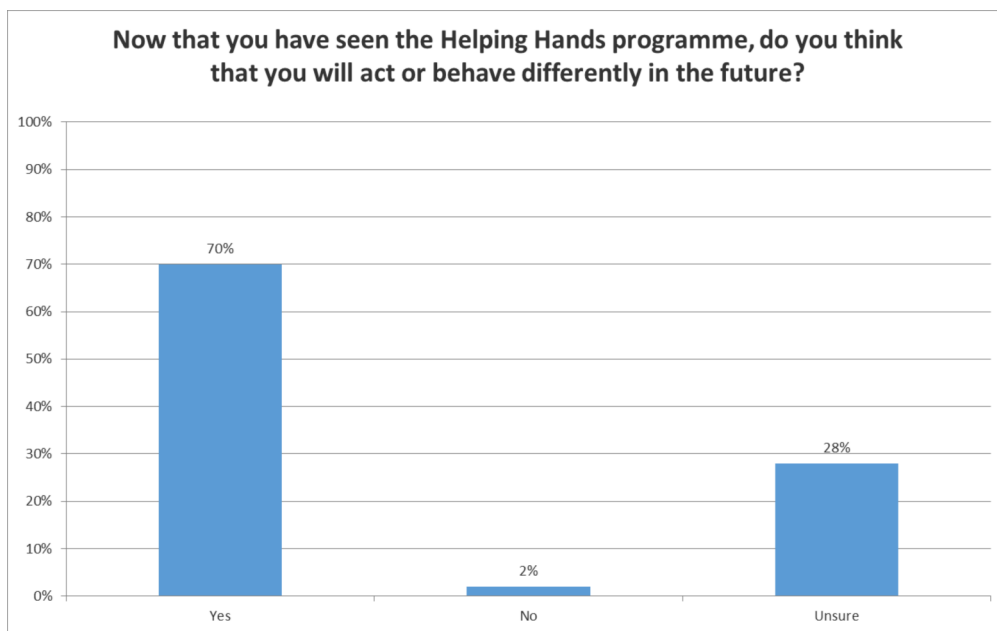
Because they tell you what to do if you are in a situation where you feel uncomfortable or scared.

Spreads awareness and can help people speak out if they need help and support.

It shows you what things can happen on the outside world if you are not careful online.

Because some of us didn't know much about Child-line (08001111), and now we do.

Because it taught us things we didn't know before like the PANTS rule.



70% of the children surveyed after the Helping Hands sessions said that as a result of the programme they would act or behave differently. The main themes that came out were that they would now be more likely to help their friends and talk about a worry to someone and know who to talk to. They would also look at how to stay safer online, behave in a better manner towards others, know and remember the PANTS rule, and know if they were being put in an abusive or unsafe situation.

Here are a few examples of the children's thoughts. As a result of seeing Helping Hands, I...

Will make sure my privacy settings are on private. I know who I can talk to if I don't feel safe.

Will be able to see signs of danger and I will know who to tell if I have any problems.

Will think about my decisions and be careful on the internet.

Will remember the PANTS rule and help myself and others.

Will stay safe online and make sure if someone speaks to me I know them and don't go off with them.

Believe that I know how to stay safe and who to speak to. I also feel more safe because I will remember the PANTS rule.

100% of the children surveyed would recommend the session for next year's pupils.

Teaching Staff Evaluation Results

Members of staff were asked how they rated the Helping Hands session. 100% rated it 'above average' or 'excellent', with 86% stating it was 'excellent':

Great way to cover sensitive topics that children may not be able to discuss at home or elsewhere.

Year 6 Teacher - Salisbury Primary School

Great session - really child-friendly and informative.

Year 6 Teacher - Salisbury Primary School

100% of staff would recommend Helping Hands to other schools and organisations:

It delivers very important messages in a really engaging and memorable way. Very enthusiastic deliverers.

Teacher - Moorcroft Wood Primary School

A great session really pitched at the children's level and delivered with sensitivity by the staff involved.

KS2 Leader - Rivers Primary Academy

Excellent drama and engaging, friendly performers who the children felt comfortable and confident talking to.

Year 6 Teacher, St Giles CE Primary School

All staff recorded that the Helping Hands session had 'considerably' or 'greatly' increased the group's knowledge of the issues:

Children were very engaged throughout the session and learned a lot about how to keep themselves safe.

Acting Deputy Head - Salisbury Primary

Children had some knowledge of e-safety and relationships from PSHE lessons but this was considerably increased by the session.

Year 6 Teacher, St Giles CE Primary School

The children learned new terms like child abuse, domestic abuse, CSE and grooming. They expanded their knowledge on what their rights are.

Teacher - Moorcroft Wood Primary School

The children were really engaged in the drama and it helped to tackle issues that are often difficult to discuss. Discussion afterwards helped children to share questions about what they had seen.

KS2 Leader - Rivers Primary Academy

All staff felt that the session had increased the children's knowledge of where to get support on these issues of abuse and unsafe relationships:

The students are more confident about getting support.

Teacher - Old Church Primary

Although the children know to speak to parents/teachers, the performance has helped them realise how important it is. Discussions were helpful in allowing the children to fully understand.

Year 6 TA, Rivers Primary Academy

100% of staff stated that the Helping Hands session had taught the children new skills:

They learned to speak openly in front of others around these issues, to express their emotions, and how to speak to adults about concerns.

Teacher – Moorcroft Wood Primary School

Children have a better understanding of their authority over their bodies.

Year 6 Teacher – Salisbury Primary School

Different strategies to use in difficult or upsetting situations.

Year 6 Teacher, St Giles CE Primary School

100% of staff said that Helping Hands had increased their confidence in delivering work around the issues. 86% of staff stated that Helping Hands had 'greatly' or 'considerably' increased their confidence:

I feel I would be able to deliver follow up sessions with greater confidence.

Year 6 Teaching Assistant – Rivers Primary Academy

This session helps teachers to understand issues that need to be tackled in schools.

KS2 Leader – Rivers Primary Academy



Helping Hands Learning Objectives

Attitudes and Values

- Children have an increased awareness of what makes a safe and healthy relationship.
- Children have an increased awareness that if people are affected by abuse that it is not their fault.
- Children have increased awareness that everyone has a right to feel safe all the time.
- Children have increased awareness of the importance of telling a trusted adult if they have any worries or concerns or don't feel safe.

Skills

- Children have an increased ability to identify signs of abuse including grooming / child sexual exploitation (CSE) or abuse (CSA).
- Children have an increased confidence in telling a trusted adult if they feel unsafe.
- Children have an increased ability to stay safe online.

Knowledge

- Children have increased knowledge of the NSPCC PANTS rule* and other ways to stay safe.
- Children have increased knowledge of relevant and appropriate services that can support children if they do not feel safe e.g. ChildLine.

** PANTS is an NSPCC campaign designed to keep children safe from sexual abuse, for more information visit [nspcc.org.uk/PANTS](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/PANTS).*

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