



justice in a day™

Educating young people about
the consequences of crime





83%
83% of teachers reported the day was very relevant to their PSE programme.



70%
70% became more aware of how to use social media such as Facebook, in a more appropriate way.



justice in a day™

Justice in a Day is a dynamic and transformative educational workshop for young people aiming to prevent young people commit crime and raise awareness about the criminal justice system and the effects of crime.

Project History

Clwyd Theatr Cymru created Justice in a Day in collaboration with North Wales Police and Community Trust (PACT) in 2010. The workshops were developed and delivered by Emyr John (Drama Outreach Worker for Clwyd Theatr Cymru) following extensive consultation and research with criminal justice agencies about contemporary issues affecting young people today. The applied drama workshops follow the story of Alex and his girlfriend Alys and are based on real-life events.

Results this year

To date, the Justice in a Day team have worked with nearly 2,000 young people across Wales including 707 in 2013. The evaluation of the project has developed this year to include more detailed analysis of outcomes and case studies to look at individual benefits from day.

Included in this pack are case studies of young people who attended the Justice in a Day workshops from the six counties in North Wales. The young people named in the case studies are composite characters created from real life stories collected in the evaluation of Justice in a Day. They explain in their own words the value of the project to help prevent youth crime. (Names of young people and adults have been changed for the purpose of this document).

Justice in a Day for YOUR young people

The project has been supported over the years by a number of supportive and generous individuals, companies and organisations. Justice in a Day costs £50 per participant and provides a cost effective way of addressing potential and actual criminal activity in young people. Compare this with the cost of placing a young person in a Young Offenders Institute, at c. £55,000 p.a.



61%
61% of the young people felt they were less likely to commit a crime following the workshop.



87%
87% reported increased knowledge of the dangers of drugs.



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Justice in a Day in Anglesey 2013

Participating
secondary schools 4

Participating
young people 63

Justice in a Day in Wales 2013

Participating secondary
schools in Wales 38

Participating counties in
Wales 6

Participating
young people 707

Cost of workshops
per participant £47

Total cost of Justice
in a Day 2013 £58,000

This project has been made possible in 2013 by the generosity of local businesses, trusts and foundations who have enabled school children in the County of Anglesey to participate at no direct cost to their schools. Justice in a Day needs more funding to be able to continue in 2014, if you would like to help, please contact:

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Rhys's Story

"Up until now I've not told anyone at school about any of the trouble I've had at home - I've kept it to myself as I didn't want anyone to know that I had to go to court a few weeks ago to give evidence against my dad."

"My brother says being inside's all right. You get to go to the gym a lot and you get fed properly. But the young offenders (institute) didn't sound like that from what Alex said."

In the witness stand

Alan, the Social Inclusion Officer is concerned. "We're worried about Rhys, which is why he was included in the Justice in a Day workshop. His brother has been in prison now three times, and we hope Rhys won't end up going the same way."

He's a nice lad really, and he does a lot for his dad at home. He's in danger of getting into serious trouble with the police. He has started hanging out with a dodgy crowd and we know he has started to commit petty crimes."

Rhys lives at home with his dad, his mum and dad having divorced a few years ago. Following the divorce his dad was made redundant from his job. After that, his health deteriorated and Rhys has become his main carer.

His dad was arrested on Rhys's birthday for being drunk and abusive towards Rhys's mum. Rhys gave evidence against his dad in court. Until the workshop the school had been unaware of this major incident in Rhys's life.

"Today has proved so useful to help us understand more about Rhys's home life," says Alan. "He opened up today about situations we weren't aware of. It means we can tailor our help and support for him. I'm wondering now if Rhys is depressed."

Bullied and destined to be NEET?

Rhys is in year 9. He is quiet, struggles with his work, seems unmotivated and tired a lot of the time. At school they believe he is at risk of becoming "not in employment, education or training" (NEET). He lacks self confidence and is regularly targeted by bullies.

"We know the impact the actors had on the kids who attended the workshop last year, if this years workshop can in any way influence Rhys's behaviour and help keep him out of trouble that would make his life (and ours) so much easier," says Alan.

"I've not told anyone at school about the trouble I've had at home."

"His brother has been in prison now three times, we hope Rhys won't end up going the same way."



"He's a nice lad really, he does a lot for his dad at home."

"If the workshop can in any way influence his behaviour and help keep him out of trouble that would make his life, and ours, so much easier."



Ryan's Story

"My brothers have both been inside - they say it was alright being in prison because they could go to the gym whenever they liked, but from seeing what Alex went through I don't know really whether I would want to go..."

Ryan is 14 years old, one of 7 children and currently living with his mum. His step brothers and step sisters have a number of different dads.

Two of his brothers have been in prison. One is currently inside for armed robbery. His dad was known for his heroin addiction and spent time in and out of prison. Ryan used to live with his dad, but witnessed him taking a fatal overdose.

Run-ins with the police

He is known by the local police, has been cautioned several times for anti social behaviour. They think it's only be a matter of time before he is arrested and charged with a serious offence.

Pete, the local Police Community Support Officer, works with Ryan at school and knew his dad well. He overheard him telling Ryan and Ryan's step brother, "You're not a man 'til you've done time".

Ryan has been excluded from school a number of times for violent and aggressive outbursts. He is currently attending a Pupil Referral Unit.

Miss Cuthbertson, one of his teachers, commented, "He has no idea of the consequences of his behaviour. Hopefully today has given him some insight into consequential thinking."

A lesson learned?

The Justice in a Day workshop seemed to affect Ryan's attitude dramatically. "I learnt from the day," he says. "Don't trust anyone from the gym. I already knew about steroids and I've seen people with 'roid rage'.

"I didn't know that you wouldn't get to say goodbye to anyone when you get sent down in court, I would hate that, I didn't know it would be like that."

"I didn't know that you wouldn't get to say goodbye to anyone when you get sent down."

"You're not a man 'til you've done time."

"He has no idea of the consequences of his behaviour."

"My brothers says it was alright being in prison."

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Justice in a Day in Conwy 2013

Participating secondary schools 4

Participating young people 73

Justice in a Day in Wales 2013

Participating secondary schools in Wales 38

Participating counties in Wales 6

Participating young people 707

Cost of workshops per participant £47

Total cost of Justice in a Day 2013 £58,000

This project has been made possible in 2013 by the generosity of local businesses, trusts and foundations who have enabled school children in the County of Conwy to participate at no direct cost to their schools. Justice in a Day needs more funding to be able to continue in 2014, if you would like to help, please contact:

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Justice in a Day in Denbighshire 2013

Participating secondary schools 3

Participating young people 91

Justice in a Day in Wales 2013

Participating secondary schools in Wales 38

Participating counties in Wales 6

Participating young people 707

Cost of workshops per participant £47

Total cost of Justice in a Day 2013 £58,000

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Zoe's Story

Zoe, 13, has had a troubled upbringing in a violent home. On the Justice in a Day course, she strongly identified with the character of Alys.

"The actress playing Alys was really good," she says. "I felt sorry for Alys. I've had people say bad stuff about me on Facebook and I stayed in with my mates drinking just like her, it was horrible. PC Chris gave us all a chat about cyber bullying at school and that stopped most of the abuse.

"The actors were amazing, I would love to be an actress. The Magistrates Court was good too. I've been there before. Today I met the real magistrate I saw when my mate had to go to court! He was alright - I was surprised because you don't expect them to be normal.

"I didn't know you could get put away for threatening someone with a knife - I thought you'd probably get a caution first time. I also didn't realise you got a higher sentence if the victim ended up in hospital."

Drinking vodka at 13

Zoe lives with her mum and 5 year old step sister in Denbigh. Throughout her life she has been subjected to a violent atmosphere at home related to heavy drinking by both her parents. Her dad was recently arrested for domestic violence and now lives in a flat nearby.

Zoe is drinking regularly and has had a number of police warnings recently. She hangs out with older boys who drink, use drugs and were arrested for a recent arson attack on an old lady's home.

Cyber bullying on the increase

Zoe's teacher, Mr. Thompson, put Zoe and some of her friends forward to attend the Justice in a Day workshop.

Mr. Thompson explained, "She's hanging out with the wrong crowd, missing school more and more. Zoe has always been a lively and opinionated girl, she used to try hard at school but in the last 6 months she's become unmotivated. We've tried to involve her parents but they are a bit too chaotic to be able to help Zoe at the moment."

The Police Community Support Officer, PCSO Chris, was aware Zoe had been having a hard time with abuse through Facebook so he did some work with Year 9 groups around cyber bullying. Things improved at the school and for Zoe directly because of this work.

"It's a big issue for us all at the moment. So many kids are using social media in nasty threatening ways. Through our work and workshops like Justice in a Day most of the kids have become aware that they are committing an offence by harassing someone through Facebook."

"The actors were amazing, I would love to be an actress"



"PC Chris gave us all a chat about cyber bullying at school and that stopped most of the abuse."

"She is 13, is drinking alcohol regularly and her schoolwork is falling behind."

"I've not been going to school much recently and I've missed so much now I can't be bothered to catch up."

"I've been in trouble with the police quite a few times and I've been excluded from school a lot."

"I didn't know before the workshop that you would get put inside for threatening someone with a knife."



"There were lots more people affected by Alex's behavior than I had thought - taking those steroids had him ending up inside."

Jordan's Story

"I've been in trouble with the police quite a few times and I've been excluded from school a lot. My Head of Year at school took me and some of my mates out of school for the day and we went to Theatr Clwyd to have a workshop about the Criminal Justice System. We watched some actors tell a story about 'Alex and Alys' and how Alex ends up in a young offenders for threatening to knife Alys. We went to court and met a real magistrate. It was all true to how it is normally."

"I didn't know before the workshop that you would get put inside for threatening someone with a knife."

"There were lots of people affected by Alex's behavior - taking those steroids had him ending up inside."

Excluded and disengaging from school

Jordan is 13 and on his 4th exclusion from school - he has been excluded for truanting, refusal to cooperate with teachers and aggressive behaviour.

Mr Jones, Head of Year 9 at Jordan's school, says: "Jordan is disengaging from school. His behavioural problems conflict with his education and he has become the lowest educational achiever in his year group. He has had a lot of contact with the police."

"The effect of the day could be to trigger the peer group memory to remember the day and the possible consequences of committing a crime. I think they wouldn't have thought previously about the consequences on the family and wider community of the effect of a crime".

"I've known Jordan since he was at primary school," says Carys, the Police Community Support Officer at Jordan's school. "He's always been outspoken, confident and known for being in trouble on a Friday night from a young age. Justice in a Day has helped get the message across to Jordan and his friends in an interactive way about the consequences to the whole community of a crime. Also its given them valuable information about the recent changes to the law in relation to knife crime."

Home alone

Jordan is from a single parent family. He's one of four children who have no contact with their father due to his violent attacks on their mum. Following the domestic violence, Jordan, his mum, brothers and sisters were relocated to Flintshire. Jordan has no close extended family members to provide support or act as a positive role model to him.

He is often out on the streets at night as his mother works night shifts in a factory. His brothers and sisters are also often on their own in the evenings.

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Justice in a Day in Flintshire 2013

Participating secondary schools 12

Participating young people 480

Justice in a Day in Wales 2013

Participating secondary schools in Wales 38

Participating counties in Wales 6

Participating young people 707

Cost of workshops per participant £47

Total cost of Justice in a Day 2013 £58,000

This project has been made possible in 2013 by the generosity of local businesses, trusts and foundations who have enabled school children in the County of Flintshire to participate at no direct cost to their schools. Justice in a Day needs more funding to be able to continue in 2014, if you would like to help, please contact:

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Justice in a Day in Flintshire 2013

Participating
secondary schools 10

Participating
young people 238

Justice in a Day in Wales 2013

Participating secondary
schools in Wales 38

Participating counties in
Wales 6

Participating
young people 707

Cost of workshops
per participant £47

Total cost of Justice
in a Day 2013 £58,000

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Jamie's Story

Jamie learned a lot from Justice in a Day. "I thought the day was really good. I liked Alex even though he was being a bit of an idiot sometimes. It must be great to be an actor and do all that stuff and get paid for it!"

Living with ADHD

Jamie, 13, is in year 9 and lives in the Bangor area. He was diagnosed with ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) at primary school and has daily medication to help him concentrate. Unfortunately, he often forgets to take it. Without his medication he behaves aggressively, is erratic and displays little self control.

Classroom assistant Miss Hughes came to the workshop with Jamie. "I couldn't believe Jamie sat through the whole day! He told me this morning that he hadn't taken his medication and I really thought we would have a difficult day with him - but he concentrated throughout the day really well. I think the acting got and held his attention. There was such a lot of action and interaction between the actors and the kids. He didn't kick off once!"

The family have received help from a number of agencies, but because of Jamie's aggressive behaviour the police are becoming more involved with the family.

At the moment, Jamie lives at home with his mum and 3 sisters. His mum is a drug user and is often absent or unable to help him. His mum has said she feels she can't control him and is becoming scared of him.

Growing up and out of control

Police Community Support Officer, PCSO Williams, has spent time with Jamie and his family over the last few months.

Jamie has had a few run-ins with the local police," says Iona. "He's a really good kid but when he doesn't take his medication he can get into trouble easily and he gets wild and loud. He can be out of control. Other kids encourage him to do stupid things and he's the one who ends up in trouble. Unfortunately he can behave aggressively, and now he's so big people find him intimidating."

"We are concerned about the new emerging drugs in the area at the moment and Jamie is one of the young people who is particularly vulnerable. It was good today for them all to hear the story line about Alex's steroid use and how that contributed to Alex being sent down to a young offenders institute."

"It must be great to be an actor and do all that stuff and get paid for it."

"I couldn't believe Jamie sat through the whole day! He hadn't taken his medication!"



"The acting got and held his attention."

"He behaves aggressively and now that he's so big people find him intimidating."

"I'm becoming scared of him."

"Several members of Miguel's family were murdered in Portugal."

"He looked shocked when we handcuffed Alex."

"His girlfriend was stupid, she was texting other lads, I'm not surprised he was angry."



"It's given his life a bit of meaning."

Miguel's Story

"I didn't know there was a place they sent you if you were under age and in trouble. It looks like visiting people there is difficult and it's not a good place."

Miguel, 15, is from Portugal. He and his family have lived in Wrexham since 2006. They moved here as asylum seekers, fleeing the gang violence they faced at home.

Several members of Miguel's family were murdered in Portugal, victims of the troubles in his home town.

But Miguel is struggling to leave his traumatic past behind. He hangs around the town at night and is known for his arrogant attitude towards the police. They have arrested him twice already for abusive behaviour. He has been cautioned for verbally abusing girls at his school.

Justice in a Day steps in...

Geoff, a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) knows Miguel well. "He's often at the heart of trouble in town, which is why we've arrested and cautioned him so many times. I ended up referring him to the Justice in a Day programme, because I know what a big difference it made to some of the kids last year.

"During the workshop today I think Miguel realized he could easily end up in a Young Offenders' Institution. He was uncomfortable in court today and much quieter than I've seen him before. He looked shocked when we handcuffed Alex and took him down."

The problem is that Miguel still doesn't fully understand what's wrong with his behavior. "I didn't think Alex would end up being sent away for what he did," he says. "His girlfriend was stupid, she was texting other lads, I'm not surprised he was angry."

Dave, the Social Inclusion Officer at Miguel's school, is making real efforts to intervene. "We've tried to speak to his parents several times but they don't speak English very well and they've struggled to get along in the local community. The police really want to sort this out, because lads like Miguel can cost the system a fortune if their behaviour isn't nipped in the bud."

Promise on the Pitch

Dave thinks there is a ray of hope, though. "Miguel is really bright and we know he was a good football player in Portugal. He's joined a local football team set up for asylum seekers and migrant families. The chance to use his natural talents seems to be helping his behaviour – maybe because it's given his life a bit of meaning."

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Justice in a Day in Wrexham 2013

Participating secondary schools 6

Participating young people 262

Justice in a Day in Wales 2013

Participating secondary schools in Wales 38

Participating counties in Wales 6

Participating young people 707

Cost of workshops per participant £47

Total cost of Justice in a Day 2013 £58,000

This project has been made possible in 2013 by the generosity of local businesses, trusts and foundations who have enabled school children in the County of Wrexham to participate at no direct cost to their schools. Justice in a Day needs more funding to be able to continue in 2014, if you would like to help, please contact:

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Thank you

The North Wales Police and Community Trust and Clwyd Theatr Cymru would like to thank:

- North Wales Police
- The All Wales Schools Liaison Programme
- H M Courts Services
- H M Magistrates
- Youth Justice Services
- North Wales High Schools

And to all our sponsors and supporters



Actors credits:

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Steve Stockdale
Richard Shakley

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If you would like Justice in a Day to work with young people
at your school, college or youth group please contact:

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