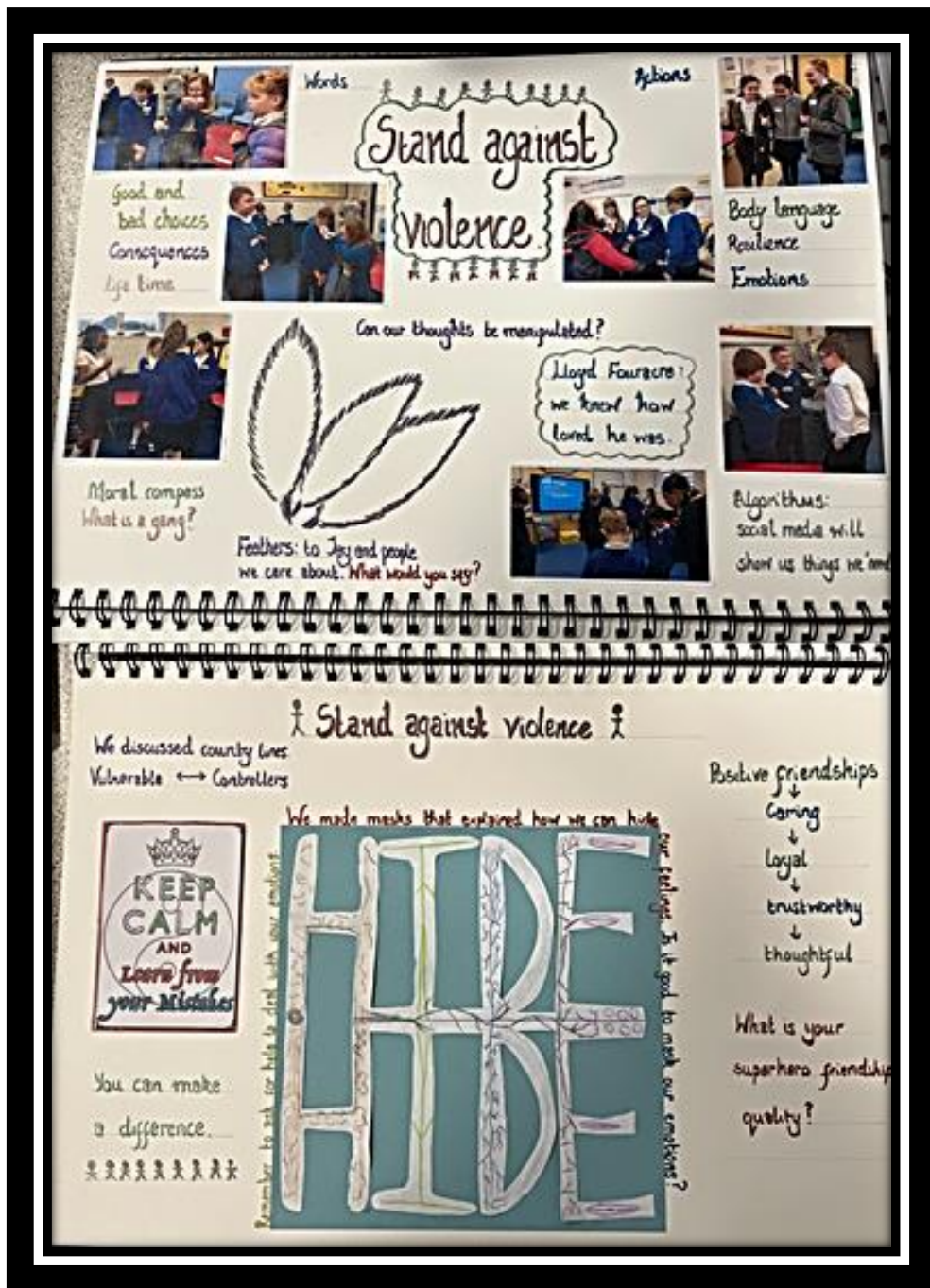


VRU: County Lines

Primary Workshop: Resilience

Educational Creative Practice using Lloyd's Story: Stand Against Violence



One day workshop aimed at Year 6 students to educate them around the basic concept and dangers of County Lines in preparation for their transition to secondary school.

- Foundation of day's teaching taken from Lloyd's story.
- Focus placed on Jay's story – in particular the 10 year old boy he was.
- Resilience and the power of positive friendships highlighted support children in keeping themselves safe.
- Creative activities encourage engagement and cement understanding in an age appropriate way.
- Emphasis on ensuring the children recognise vulnerability.
- The structure of day builds and links all elements to ensure the content of the day can be accessed by all.

VRU Workshop – Explanation      Overview of the Day

Assembly/Response (list words)

Drama activities – ‘In the Manner of/Freeze Frames’

FAIL in booklet

Understanding Body Posture

Emotional Mask – an art activity

Mind Games - understanding subconscious choices

Adverts to include algorithms – Mind Manipulation

Understanding Gangs

County lines

Friendship cards – Good and Bad Choices

Kindness Superheroes

Pause

Compliment Feathers

The day runs in a linear format so that each element informs and is built upon by the next.

This helps to build the students preparation and understanding.

Lloyds Story introduces the age of criminal responsibility and the law of joint enterprise. Jay is referred to throughout the day.

Drama, Art, Media, Maths and verbal discussion are used as activities to inform and make the day memorable.

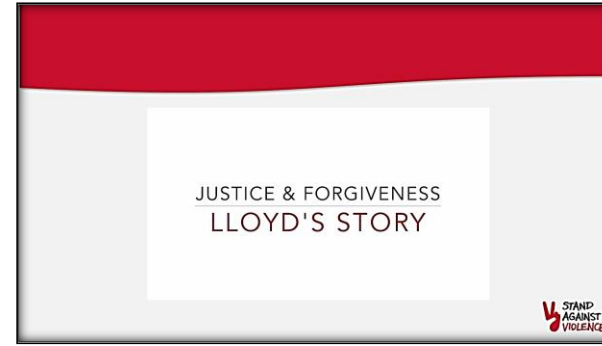
Lloyd’s story adds the necessary realism to the subject.



## Assembly/Response

Introduce joint enterprise and the age of criminal responsibility. Refer back to these point throughout the day.

Jay becomes the focus of the day. 10 year old Jay would have got involved with county lines. How would the power of friendship altered Jay's life choices?



### Drama activities – 'In the Manner of/Freeze Frames'

How to read emotions from body language.

What was Jay's body language as he approached Lloyd?

How does the body language and mood of a classmate affect everyone?

Peer pressure.

How can we be aware of people's feelings through body language?

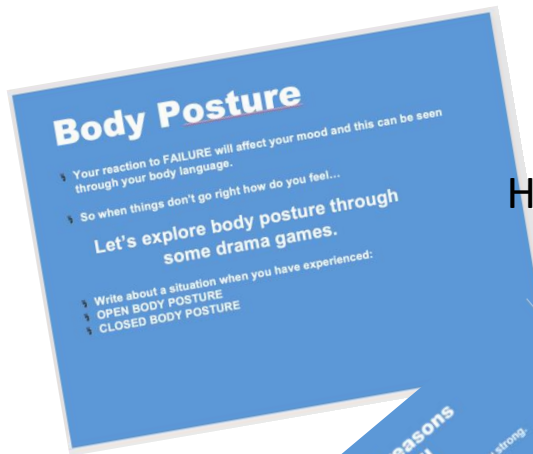
### Body Posture

Understanding Open and Closed body posture.

### FAIL: First Page of booklet

Discussion about the meaning of Resilience.

First Attempt At Learning





## Emotional Mask – Art Activity

- Mind mapping reasons to wear a mask:
  - Falls into two categories:  
**Identity or Protection**
- Discussion about why people wear an emotional mask to hide their feelings.
  - Connect this concept with Jay hiding his embarrassment, fear and anger about “his life in general” behind a mask of being “hard, big, fearsome”.
- The activity of mask making: an emotion is written down on folded paper and a symmetrical mask is unfolded following a series of steps.

### What about the face? Putting on a mask

- ↳ A mask is an ancient form of expressive facial disguise. Masks were used to frighten enemies and to hide their identity.
- ↳ Today the mask is a symbol of a hidden personality and identity.
- ↳ Putting on a 'mask' HIDES feelings and doesn't allow others to HELP.
- ↳ Create a 'folded symmetry' mask.





## Mind games

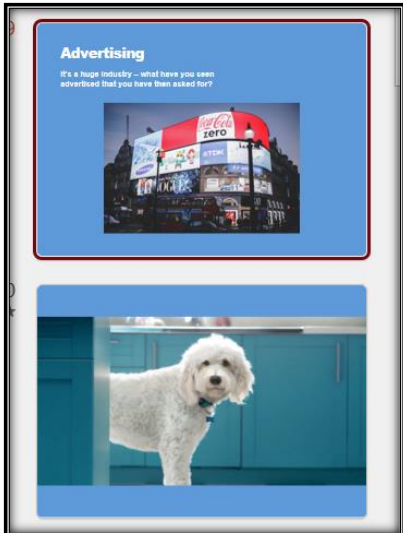
- Optical illusions and surrealism
- Questions asked before lunch to create curiosity
- Mind tricks games engage students further to understand how the subconscious mind works

## Advertisements & Algorithms

- Discussion about tricks used in advertising
- Not believing all that you are shown
- Old advertising tricks not working as well
- New algorithm messages have been created





When all  
is not  
as it  
seems



**Algorithms**

- ↳ Social media algorithms are a way of sorting posts in a user's feed based on relevancy instead of publish time.
- ↳ Social networks prioritise which content you see in your feed first by the likelihood that you will actually want to see it.
- ↳ Cookies are simple text files that a website can store on your browser. The main purpose of a cookie is to identify users, save site login details or create customised web pages tailored to the individual's preferences.
- ↳ Be aware of your settings. Your information is valuable and being naive makes you vulnerable.

**ALGORITHM**  
(noun)  
The word used by tech companies when they do not want to tell what they do.



So when do  
people use mind  
manipulation?





People try to get promotion but in doing so are also likely to themselves become targets.



### Controller

City based most commonly  
London, Birmingham or Liverpool



### Local Boss

(Receives and distributes  
drugs)



### Young Gang Members



### Runners

## 'COUNTY LINES' DRUG NETWORKS



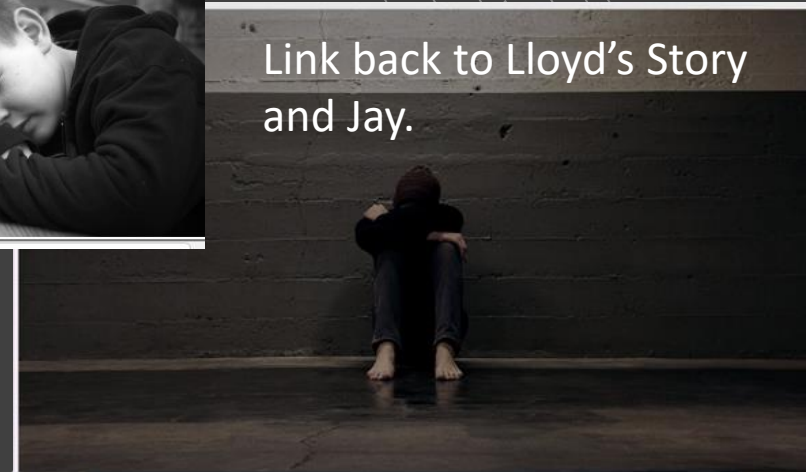
These city gangs supply drugs to areas with lots of houses like market and coastal towns, by using dedicated mobile phone lines or "deal lines". Gangs use children and vulnerable people to move drugs and money to these areas. Once caught up in county lines, exploited individuals are at risk.



- **What does a gang look like?**
- Gangs often have a stereotypical image – don't be fooled.
- Be aware (referring to advertisement truths)
- **County Lines**
- New way of crime. Know the structure, new crime style (referring to algorithms)
- Understand the characters that wear masks to conceal who they are and the methods they use to fool children. Looking for signs and helping others not to be fooled. Knowing about the tricks being aware make us strong together!



Link back to Lloyd's Story  
and Jay.





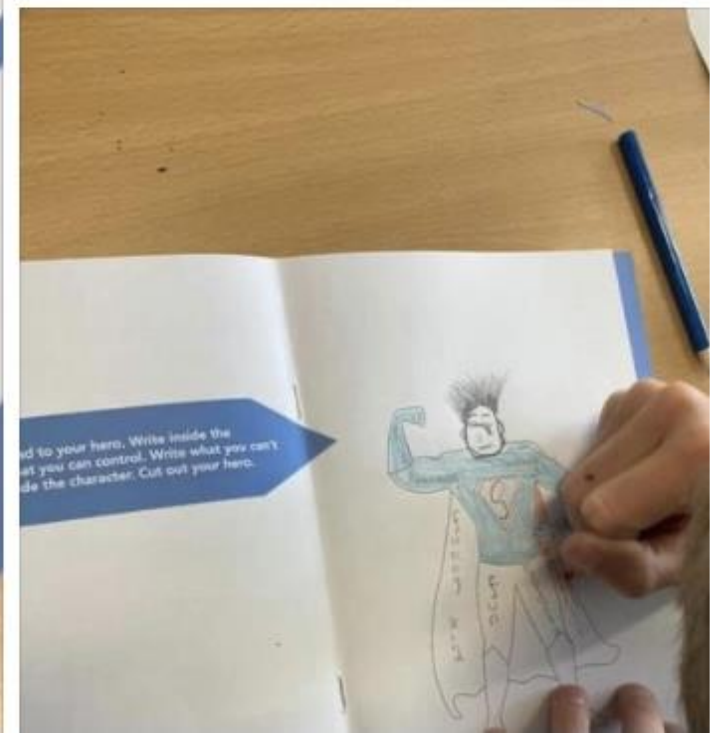
## How do 'true friends' behave?

- **Friendship cards** How to recognise false friendships. Know who is a true friend. Reference to joint enterprise and criminal responsibility. Discuss choices made and independent thinking.
- **Superhero** Spot body language of a friend, recognize when an emotional mask is being worn and know the power of good friendship.
- **Pause** Talk about activities that take students to a happy space where they can think and make good choices.
- **Feathers** Compliments cost nothing and help to improve self-esteem in a positive way. Imagine if Jay had been given compliment feathers.
- **Recap and wristbands and evaluations.**



## Positive friendships: you and your group of friends – it's a good thing!

Hanging out with a group of friends can be a lot of fun, provide a sense of belonging, and boost your self-esteem. It might be a crowd that you know through school, where you live, or through mutual friends.







## What can you do?

- ↳ Get help...tell someone!
- ↳ Trusted adult
- ↳ Family
- ↳ Teachers
- ↳ Or if you can't do that call Childline:  
0800 1111



**childline**

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME  
childline.org.uk | 0800 1111

## ↳ Final Collective Art Piece



Good morning Claire,

Many thanks for the workshops this week. We were incredibly impressed by how professional and engaging they were.

A huge thank you to Natasha, who pitched the workshops perfectly for our children and had them hooked throughout.

If possible, we would love to continue working with Stand Against Violence in the future.

Best wishes,

Matthew Brinkworth

Year 6 Lead

Weston All Saints CofE Primary School



## What can you do?

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## ↳ Final Collective Art Piece



Hi Claire,

George was superb! She delivered hard-hitting topics in a way that informed and impacted the children without scaring them.

The day was very smooth, and the pace was perfect.

I cannot recommend George enough.

Very best wishes,