



# Alternative Routes

## Programme

The Alternative Routes programme integrates workshops on the consequences of criminal actions, strategies for overcoming exploitation, and mentorship for personal advancement, aiming to mitigate youth violence and contribute to community enhancement.

# Craig Pinkney, Chief Executive Officer, SOLVE.

"Over the years, I've steered SOLVE to be an organisation deeply committed to understanding the root causes of violence, conflict, and harm. My vision is to set unparalleled standards for professionals across diverse fields, ensuring our approach is both rigorous and impactful. We strive to elevate and address societal issues with professionalism and unwavering dedication, always aiming to create lasting, positive change."



# About Solve CYVC

**SOLVE CYVC: The Centre for Youth Violence and Conflict is a leading organisation committed to critically examining and addressing the causes of violence through research, training, consultancy, and advocacy.**

**Our aim is to make a positive impact in the field of youth violence and conflict resolution. Our team consists of passionate professionals who bring a wealth of expertise and experience in addressing issues related to violence, conflict, and youth development. With a shared commitment to creating meaningful change, we empower individuals and communities to overcome challenges and build safer environments.**





**CRAIG PINKNEY**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



**FIDEL THOMPSON**  
FACILITATOR/PEER MENTOR



**AABIDA BILAL**  
FACILITATOR



**HI!** MEET  
THE  
TEAM



**RACHEL EASON**  
FACILITATOR



**CAMERON WRIGHT**  
FACILITATOR

# Workshops

**01** Choices: Impact of Gangs, Knife and Gun Crime

**02** Protect & Empower

**03** It Could Be YOU

**04** The Ripple Effect

**05** Level Up: Be Your Own Boss

**06** VAWG: Disrupt the Pattern

**07** Stronger Together: Fighting Racism

**08** Safe Surfing

**09** Parents: Understanding Gangs and Criminal Exploitation

**10** Peer Mentoring



**Alternative  
Routes**

# Choices: Impact of Gangs, Knife and Gun Crime



## Overview

The workshop aims to deepen understanding of gang, knife, and gun crime impacts, covering consequences, prevention, and personal responsibility. It focuses on empowering participants to help reduce violence through community engagement and positive actions.



## Learning Objectives

- Understand the broad impacts of gang, knife, and gun crime.
- Risk Factors: Learn about what drives individuals towards involvement in violent activities.
- Legal Outcomes: Grasp the legal repercussions of involvement in violent crime
- Prevention Strategies: Discover methods to prevent youths from turning to violence.
- Community Role: Recognise the power of personal choices and community support in reducing crime.



**Craig Pinkney**

# Protect & Empower



## Overview

The 'Protect & Empower' workshop aims to educate participants on the forms, development, and signs of child sexual exploitation (CSE). It covers the severe consequences, including legal and psychological impacts, and teaches how to recognise manipulation techniques used by exploiters. Additionally, the workshop provides preventive measures and information on seeking help, empowering participants to protect themselves and others from CSE.



## Learning Objectives

- **Understanding Child Sexual Exploitation:** Participants will learn about the various forms of child sexual exploitation (CSE) and how these situations typically develop.
- **Recognising Signs and Manipulation Techniques:** Participants will be able to identify the signs of CSE and understand the manipulation techniques used by exploiters to control and manipulate young individuals.
- **Comprehending Severe Consequences:** Participants will gain awareness of the serious legal and psychological impacts of CSE.
- **Implementing Preventive Measures:** Participants will learn practical strategies to prevent CSE and protect themselves and others.
- **Accessing Support Resources:** Participants will become familiar with resources and organisations, such as NSPCC and Childline, and learn how to seek help if they or someone they know is at risk of CSE.



**Aabida Bilal**

# It Could Be You!



## Overview

The workshop addresses serious issues of child exploitation, focusing specifically on criminal exploitation among at-risk youth. It is designed to educate young people about the dangers and signs of exploitation through the story of a fictional character named Jay, juxtaposed with real-life cases..



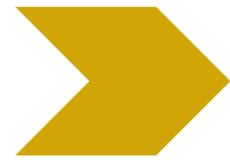
## Learning Objectives

- **Understanding Child Exploitation:** Participants will gain insight into the different forms of child exploitation and how these situations typically develop.
- **Recognising Signs and Manipulation Techniques:** Students will learn to identify the methods exploiters use to manipulate and control young individuals.
- **Awareness of Real-Life Consequences:** The presentation illustrates the serious consequences of exploitation, including legal issues, violence, and psychological impacts.
- **Preventive Measures and Seeking Help:** It provides preventative strategies and details on where to find help, highlighting resources like NSPCC and Childline.
- **Interactive Engagement:** Encourages active participation and critical thinking through decision-making scenarios involving the character Jay.



**Cameron Wright**

# The Ripple Effect



## Overview

"The Ripple Effect" workshop explores the powerful connection between actions and consequences. Through discussions, self-reflection, and Fidel Thompson's life story as a former gang member who was paralysed due to gun violence, participants will gain valuable insights. Now dedicated to educating young people, Fidel's story inspires a greater sense of responsibility in making positive life choices.



## Learning Objectives

- Explore the negative impacts of gun and knife crime.
- Identify factors that can lead young people into making poor life choices.
- Critically reflect on contemporary issues that affect young people within a UK context.
- Highlight the importance of goal setting and building resilience.
- Be able to participate in reflective learning activities within peer group.



**Fidel Thompson**

# Level Up: Be Your Own Boss

## Overview

This 2-hour workshop introduces young people (16+) to the foundations of entrepreneurship, helping them explore how to turn their passions, skills, and ideas into real opportunities. Through interactive discussion and practical exercises, participants will learn about problem-solving, resilience, and creative thinking while understanding what it takes to start and sustain a small project or business. The session encourages self-belief and highlights how entrepreneurial skills can support not only career goals but also personal growth and community impact.

## Learning Objectives

- Understand what entrepreneurship means and how it applies to everyday life.
- Recognise personal strengths, passions, and talents that can be turned into opportunities.
- Explore basic steps of starting a small business or project (idea generation, planning, teamwork).
- Learn about resilience, confidence, and problem-solving as key entrepreneurial skills.
- Reflect on how entrepreneurship can create positive change for individuals and communities.



**Cameron Wright**

# VAWG Violence Against Girls & Women

## Overview

This interactive workshop raises awareness of Violence Against Girls & Women (VAWG), misogyny, and healthy relationships from a Female or Male Perspective. Participants will explore key topics, including recognising abusive behaviours, challenging harmful stereotypes, and understanding the importance of respect and equality in relationships. Through discussions and activities, young people will develop tools to identify unhealthy dynamics, foster empathy, and promote positive change in their communities. The session provides a safe space to learn, reflect, and build confidence in addressing these crucial issues.

## Learning Objectives

- Develop an understanding of the key concepts of Violence Against Girls & Women (VAWG) and misogyny, including their definitions, causes, and societal impact.
- Identify and recognise the signs of unhealthy, abusive, or coercive behaviours in relationships and learn how to seek support or intervene safely.
- Explore the impact of stereotypes, gender biases, and societal norms on attitudes, behaviours, and relationships, encouraging self-reflection and awareness.
- Build skills and strategies to foster respect, empathy, and equality in personal relationships, promoting a culture of mutual understanding and care.
- Gain confidence to challenge harmful behaviours, address misogynistic attitudes, and advocate for healthy, respectful interactions in all areas of life.



**Rachel Eason**



**Cameron Wright**

# Stronger Together: Fighting Racism



## Overview

Learners will explore and understand key approaches and strategies to challenge racism and promote inclusivity within their schools, colleges, and wider communities. They will engage in discussions to reflect on the impact of racism and discrimination on individuals and society, while learning practical ways to address and interrupt these behaviours. Through interactive activities, students will gain the knowledge and confidence to foster safer, more inclusive environments, build positive relationships, and advocate for equity and respect among their peers.



## Learning Objectives

- Develop a clear understanding of racism, its definition, and the impact it has on individuals and communities.
- Recognise stereotypes, discriminatory behaviours, and how they contribute to systemic racism.
- Explore the importance of empathy, tolerance, and mutual respect in fostering inclusive and healthy relationships.
- Gain practical tools and strategies to address and challenge racism confidently in everyday situations.
- Reflect on personal attitudes and beliefs to support equality, diversity, and inclusion in both school and community settings.



**Cameron Wright**

# Safe Surfing



## Overview

This interactive workshop helps young people understand how to stay safe while socialising, dating, gaming, and meeting new people online. The session explores the opportunities and risks associated with digital platforms, including privacy, grooming, cyberbullying, scams, and unhealthy relationships. Through case studies and practical activities, participants will learn how to recognise red flags, set boundaries, and use safety tools available on popular platforms. The aim is to empower young people to make informed choices and protect themselves and their peers in digital spaces.



## Learning Objectives

- Understand the benefits and risks of online socialising, dating, and gaming.
- Recognise potential dangers, such as grooming, exploitation, cyberbullying, scams, and inappropriate contact.
- Learn how to set boundaries and practise safe online behaviours.
- Identify privacy tools, reporting functions, and platform safeguards that help protect users.
- Build confidence to challenge unsafe behaviours and support peers in staying safe online.
- Know where to go for help and advice if they or someone they know encounters an unsafe situation online.



**Cameron Wright**

# Parents: Understanding Gangs and Criminal Exploitation

## Overview

The workshop aims to enable to bring awareness to the parents to explore the reality of the issues that impact children and young people. The workshop will cover the daily challenges faced by children/young people and explore the motivations to why many may join deviant or anti-social groups. Participants will also engage in reflective learning activities that will enable them to think of positive and realistic ways to support their children.

## Learning Objectives

- Help parents identify and understand street gangs, county lines and what criminal exploitation looks like in the United Kingdom.
- Enable parents to recognise indicators and reasons why children and young people may get involved with street gangs or county lines.
- Examine the role of social media and its impact on both young males and females.
- Be able to identify available support and resources for young people

## Method of delivery

- Online Webinar or Face to Face sessions.



**Craig Pinkney**

# Peer Mentoring



**Fidel**

Our peer mentors provides guidance and support, helping mentees develop skills and achieve goals. They act as a positive role model, build confidence, share resources, and offer constructive feedback, all aimed at fostering the mentee's personal and professional grow



# Thank You

For Your Attention

