

## TTE helps Lord Williams’s School revolutionise its approach to PSHE

### Background

Lord Williams’s School is a comprehensive school, located in Thame on the rural borders of Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire. With more than 2,000 students across two sites, Lord Williams’s is one of the largest in the county and prides itself on its inclusive nature and wider experience offered to its students.

The school identified a need to update its existing Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) programme, along with its drug education programme and commissioned The Training Effect to help them.

TTE’s Lead Consultant for Education, Ben Lovatt worked with the school to change its approach to planning and delivering an effective PSHE scheme.

### Solution

In consultation with Ben, the school re-focussed the Key Stage 3 programme of PSHE to concentrate on issues and motivations surrounding risk from a student’s perspective. Rather than looking at particular drug types, different street drug names and their effects, TTE undertook a consultation which was designed to look more broadly at the young person in context – the pressures and motivations that influence decisions, whether this is concerned with drug taking, alcohol, relationships, or sexual consent and exploitation.



Humanities teacher Claire works with Year 11 students to encourage discussion around a PSHE topic.

Ben spent time running workshops for Year 11 students on consent, unpicking student understanding of the definition, exploring what consent looks like at different stages of a relationship and the role of intimacy.

Ben also delivered training to staff at the school on issues including relationships and drug education,

in order to help them identify the best way of approaching and discussing risk-taking with their students. TTE also conducted anonymous surveys across the entire school community. These surveys provided valuable data which supported the planning of sessions and enabled the delivery of social norms-based interventions.

### Outcome

The updated PSHE curriculum is delivered through a programme of tutor and teacher delivered sessions, assemblies and off-timetable activities. Furthermore, specific groups of students are targeted for bespoke intervention programmes as identified by the pastoral teams. These may focus on drugs, child sexual exploitation or bullying.

Nicky Stallwood, the school’s PSHE co-ordinator, said: *“Ben is well regarded by staff and has made a significant contribution to the development of our PSHE programme. I have really appreciated having Ben’s input in the development of workshops and lesson plans; his understanding of the mind set of young people has made our resources relevant and accessible to students. He is the right mix of being relaxed and ‘cool’ that engages young people, together with the skills of a professional, experienced facilitator. The kids love him!”*

Indeed, one teacher commented: *“Students have discussed consent more than once across their PSHE lessons and we assume they have an understanding. It was evident from the workshop that there is still a lack of confidence in student understanding, so it has been incredibly useful to return to the issue of consent and its role within the context of a relationship.”*

Feedback from the students showed that they found the sessions ‘useful’ and ‘engaging’ and that the programme has helped them understand relationships better.