

# MVP School Requirements

## Overview

Merseyside Youth Association is commissioned to deliver the Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) across Merseyside. It is a peer education programme that provides young people with the language and framework to explore and challenge the attitudes, beliefs and cultural norms that underpin gender-based violence, bullying and other forms of abuse whilst building resilience and promoting positive mental health.

By supporting schools to have a 'whole school' approach to early intervention and prevention of bullying, harassment and risky behaviours, the programme empowers pupils to identify and communicate concerns with peers and school staff.

An MYA RAISE Team Lead is assigned to support every school that commits to the programme.

There is no cost to schools currently as the work is being funded by the Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership.

## What are the commitments of an MVP school?

In ensuring the programme is suitable, there is a need for the ethos and principles of the programme to complement and meet priorities identified in a school's improvement plan, recognise the sensitive topics that the programme may cover (domestic abuse and sexual assault) and ensure appropriate support will be in place for all involved.

A school would need to agree to:

- identify two staff members with dedicated time allowance - one pastoral, one SLT, with a gender balance preferable, to comprise an MVP school team;
- two-day training of the MVP school team;
- two-day training to a selected group of potential mentors;
- one day filming/media opportunity for the mentors; and
- initial delivery of at least five sessions of the programme and five subsequent refresher sessions.

## The role of the School MVP Leads

The MVP school team will support the school's peer mentors to deliver the programme to mentees. The success and impact of delivering MVP in school will be heavily influenced by the approach and encouragement of the MVP school leads.

The MVP School Team will be required to support:

- facilitating a pre MVP session with the RAISE Team Lead and mentors;
- identification of mentors and any changes in discussion with the RAISE Team Lead;
- briefing of the whole school around the MVP programme and violence prevention;
- the MYA Raise Team in planning training for staff, mentors and delivery of sessions to mentees;
- the mentors in timetabling and facilitating the sessions with mentees;
- any filming requirements and additional events such as graduation/celebration sessions;
- the downloading and printing of MVP session plans from the [website](#) (password is PreventingViolence);
- circulating the MVP PowerPoint to teachers prior to delivery of sessions; and
- circulating the young people and staff survey to ensure MVP sessions are tailored to your school's needs;
- pastoral facilitation around the session topics when needed;
- additional MYA Raise Team training offers around mental health; and
- mentors delivering to the same group of mentees for all five sessions to ensure consistency and relationship-building.

## Communications

We actively use social media to share news, updates, and successes while generally building awareness of the benefits of MVP.

If you would like to support us with your own social media activity either while your staff or students are receiving training or following the completion of the programme, we have put together the following tips, including some sample Tweets and Facebook posts that can be copied and pasted.

More information about using social media for MVP can be found on [this page](#), where you can also download the logo and view brand guidelines.

## Evaluation

Ongoing evaluation is an integral element of the MVP programme. The majority of this will be completed online using surveys. It's essential to complete the staff surveys and encourage young people to complete theirs. Distributing these survey links and following up on their completion is part of the MVP Lead's role.

External evaluation of the MVP will be conducted periodically by Liverpool John Moores University.

## Contact Information

If you have any general MVP programme feedback or questions relating to the website or course materials, please get in touch via [mentalhealthpromotion@mya.org.uk](mailto:mentalhealthpromotion@mya.org.uk)