Dudley '627' Pilot Project

Dudley Integrated Violence and Exploitation Reduction Team (D.I.V.E.R.T) Dr Aaron Anderson



Context - National

- 40,100 knife crimes in 2018 (highest in 8 years).
- Since 2014, increased rates every year.
- Homicide by knife and sharp instruments up 33% since 2016/17.
- In 2018, 21,044 disposals given for offensive weapons including

knives. Juveniles (10-17) offenders in 21% of cases.

- Increases in violent crime shifting to- ward younger perpetrators male on male.
- Research suggesting excluded children at higher risk of being victim and offender.
- Self-reported violence weapon carrying peak at age 15.
- Males commit majority of violence.

Context - Dudley

- July 2017 organised violence outside a local college involving a large group of young people with a range of weapons.
- Local media coverage and a Police led Operation Ceiling follows with over 30 knife possession letters being issued.
- Growing tensions between groups

identifying around central Dudley (013) and Kates Hill (DY2).

- Group of young adults linked with 013 are remanded in custody charged with the local murder of a Birmingham man in January 2018.
- Confrontation between 4 opposing members in Merry Hill on a Saturday afternoon in May 2018 involves weapons and again attracts media attention.

Overview and Aims

Overview

- Targeted transition program.
- Year 6 and year 7.
- Inner city focus.
- Preventative. Aims
- Reduce youth violence.
- Extra support for vulnerable families in central Dudley.
- Prevent CYPs entering criminal justice system.
- Improve educational and wellbeing outcomes.

PROCESS



Assess Early Help assessment is conducted

Review

Review progress at school, home and in the community by FSW

Review interventions

 Multiagency '627' panel shortlisting Plan Planning interventions and

next steps

planning phase by multi-

agency professional

 Deliver intervention(s) agreed in

Multidisciplinary Team

- Educational Psychology
- Youth Offending Services
 - Social Worker
 - Speech and Language Therapist
- Dudley Family Centres
 - Family Support Workers
- Krunch Mentoring Service

Identification — Screening Tool

- Created by Educational Psychologist and YOS (Social Worker).
- Sent to inner city Dudley primary schools. Usually completed by school staff (SENCOs and safeguarding leads) and family support workers.
- Used risk and protective factors highlighted within literature and YOS experience.
- Used structured professional judgment approach.
- 3 areas:
 - Problems at school
 - Individual problems
 - Other risk factors (microsystem)

Intervention Phase

EP assessment

Do

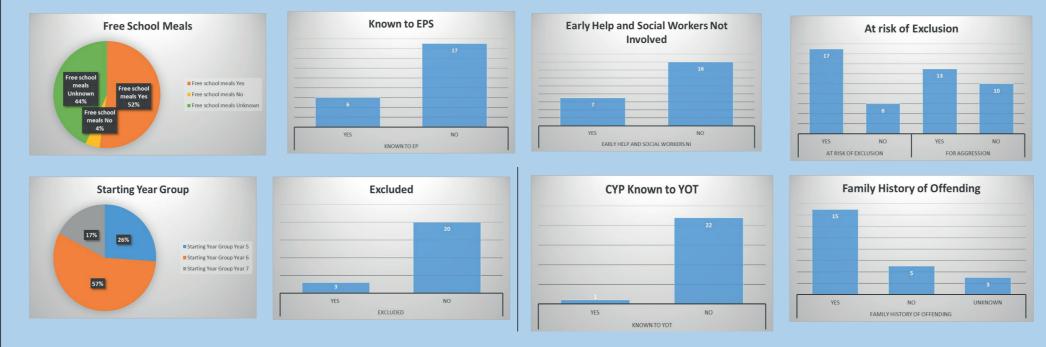
- Consultations, observations, 1:1 assessment.
- Gathering perspectives, assessing strengths and needs, recommendations, written reports.
- 1:1 school based mentoring
- Early help referrals Family centre services
- Family plans across domains
- Transition support
- Positive Parenting Program (PPP)
- Speech and language assessment

EP findings -Children's Difficulties

Key problems and needs:

- Attachment related
- Lack empathy
- Difficulties managing anxiety / separation anxiety
- Poor relationships with adults at school and peers.
- Low self concept
- Poor emotional regulation and impulse control
- Low reasoning and problem-solving skills
- Limited resilience
- Attention problems
- Fearlessness / lack inhibitions
- Lack any recreational activity
- Low motivation with learning

FINDINGS (demographics)



Families Characteristics and Adverse Childhood Experiences

- Single parent households (absent father).
- Family member incarcerated or known to YOS.
- Domestic violence.
- Substance abuse in the household.
- Large immediate families, multiple CYP needs.
- Brothers.
- Recent family deaths.
- · Lack of male role models.

What do these children need?

- Key relationships.
 - Home / School / Community
- Meta-cognitive skills.
- System development. Family therapy?
- Self-determination.

The Resilience Framework

- **Basics**
- Health, safety, security, routine
- Belonging
 - Relationships, identity, membership
- Learning
- Talents, interests, life skills
- Coping
 - Problem-solving, bravery, own values
- Core self
 - Who they are, own strengths

- EP The Troubled Families Program.
- YOT Part of prevention work.
- Krunch mentoring Home Office, Dudley community safety Partnership.

Key Points

- Consent voluntary
- Dysfunctional family systems.
- Extremely disaffected children. • Exclusions and "managed moves"
- Elective home education rising?
- Children unknown to EPS.
- Zero tolerance behaviour policies.
- Poor relationships with adults at home and school.

Funding