

# St Giles

Turning a past into a future

## Working in Schools to Prevent Exploitation and Gang Involvement

Nicci MacGillivray – SOS+ Team Manager



## DK's Story

# What does St Giles do?

**ST GILES** believes that everyone has the power to turn their life around, no matter what their situation.

Many of our employees have been in similar situations and use their past experiences to inspire and support those living through it right now.

Women and families

Youth at risk of  
violence or crime

Adults facing complex  
barriers

Prisoners and those  
with convictions

Unemployed and  
those facing poverty

# The SOS+ Service

Early intervention work to children, young people, parents and professionals

In educational settings, youth clubs, youth offending teams and police forces.

Offer preventative sessions on violence, vulnerability and exploitation

Employ trained professionals with lived experience of the criminal justice system

De-glamorise gang involvement and expose the harsh realities of crime and violence.

# The SOS+ Model

Lived Experience

Low

Assemblies  
& enhanced presence

Med

Targeted Sessions

High

Mentoring

Embedded Mentor

# Assemblies & Targeted Sessions

## SECONDARY SCHOOLS

- County lines
- Knife crime
- Gangs
- Child sexual exploitation
- Child criminal exploitation
- Realities of prison

## PRIMARY SCHOOLS

- Knife crime
- Gangs

## PARENTS

- County lines
- Knife crime

## PROFESSIONALS

- County lines
- Child criminal exploitation
- Serious youth violence



# The SOS+ Model

Low

Assemblies  
& enhanced presence

Med

Targeted Sessions

High

Mentoring

# Mentoring

10 to 15 weeks

Initial  
Assessment

Interim  
Assessment

Final  
Assessment

Support Plan

Disengaged

Engagement

ETE



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Embedded Mentor

# Embedded Mentor

## SCHOOLS

Broxbourne

Luton

Hounslow

St Helens

## CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Hampshire  
(Willow Team)



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# Lived Experience

**SOS+** Mentors and Facilitators have a proud record of connecting with children and young people where conventional approaches have failed.

Lived  
experience

Cultural  
competence

Speak the  
language

Voluntary  
service

We're not  
"the feds"

Intelligence  
sharing

# Looking after the team

We are committed to our comprehensive policies and procedures to ensure that all SOS+ staff are recruited, trained and supported to work competently and safely with the children and young people in their care.

- Fulltime employment
- Risk-managed recruitment
- Training and development
- Clinical supervision
- Peer support
- Career prospects





*Stock Image*

## **RB's Story**

“It made me really think about what is going on around me and how to keep away from it, and don’t carry a knife.” **Young person**

“The students were riveted...you could see the understanding creeping over them as they listened to what they (SGT facilitators) were saying.” **Teaching professional**

“It was fantastic to listen to and take away a lot from the presentation – really engaging, enthusiastic and relevant. I would have found it invaluable to have met the facilitator 15 years ago when I started my career.” **Police officer**

“..educating the youth from early, hopefully things can change - education is most definitely key and having real people talk to the youth really helps. So thank you to people like you and the other guy who have turned your life around and show positivity and a passion to help others it truly does make a huge difference.” **Mother**

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## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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