



Profiling provision that supports the delivery of RSHP education

Education Scotland

Title of Programme: **The Mentors in Violence Prevention Programme (MVP)**

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About the programme:

The Scottish Government wants to see a Scotland where communities can flourish, become stronger, safer places to live, offer improved opportunities and a better quality of life for all. A place where children and young people are respected, and where their health and wellbeing are promoted, supported and safeguarded.

We want to ensure that our schools are places that facilitate learning and allow our young people to develop their full potential both academically and emotionally. Healthy relationships support successful learning.

The Mentors in Violence Prevention Programme (MVP) recognises the role of relationships in achieving these objectives and aims to raise awareness on a range of important issues that are impacting on communities across Scotland. It uses a peer education leadership model to address gender-based violence and bullying in schools and the wider community. The unique bystander approach of MVP equips older pupils to work with their younger peers and address the attitudes and beliefs that can lead to abusive behaviours and unhealthy relationships, allowing young people to explore their shared values and for healthy social norms to emerge.

MVP provides young people with the skills to recognise the differences between what are appropriate and acceptable behaviours and what are not. Importantly, it also provides strategies to enable peers to safely challenge inappropriate behaviours detrimental to the health and wellbeing of young people.

Despite the fall in serious and violent offences across Scotland, sexual offences continue to rise and instances of domestic abuse remain high. The MVP programme looks at the role of gender stereotyping and inequality and how these impact on young people's behaviour and relationships. It offers sessions on a wide range of topics including online bullying, sharing of images, homophobia, child sexual exploitation, pornography and consent.

Schools running the programme receive support in the form of professional learning for staff, materials and ongoing support and evaluation through their local authority and the MVP national team at Education Scotland.

The programme contributes to a number of key policy areas including Getting it Right for Every Child (2007), The National Performance Framework (2019), Respect for All (2017), Equally Safe (2014, 2016) and Developing the Young Workforce: Career Education Standard (3-18) (2015).

Links to further information

MVP on the National Improvement Hub: <https://education.gov.scot/improvement/practice-exemplars/mentors-for-violence-prevention-mvp-an-overview>

MVP Scotland: <http://mvpscotland.org.uk/>