



**NEW PARK
ACADEMY**



**GREATER MANCHESTER
POLICE**



REFORM

IMPROVING THE LIVES OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN
SALFORD



WHAT IS
REFORM
AND
WHO IS IT FOR?

WHAT

Reform is an innovative Youth Intervention Programme initially launched in Irlam and Cadishead over two years ago. Following its remarkable success, the initiative is now expanding into Eccles.

Administered by **Greater Manchester Police**, Reform is spearheaded by dedicated local police officers. The initiative's primary objective is to enrich the lives of young individuals, emphasising proactive engagement to mitigate criminal behaviour, antisocial activities, and exploitation. Additionally, the program collaborates closely with Academy staff to devise strategies aimed at decreasing the likelihood of students not attending school.

The programme manifests in various forms, commencing with officers collaborating with partners to pinpoint individuals who would most benefit from it. Subsequently, these officers strive to constructively engage with the identified youths within their school environment, either collectively or on an individual (1-to-1) basis.

The nature of these sessions is tailored to each individual, encompassing activities like fostering relationships, conducting welfare checks, and providing informal education. This approach is often categorized as 'mentorship' or 'big brother/sister' schemes.

Building on these interactions, officers then explore avenues to positively improve the lives of these individuals, aiming to alleviate the aforementioned risks. This is achieved through synergy with various partners, including Housing, Youth Service, and the Academy, creating a holistic support network



HOW

Reform has been meticulously developed in collaboration with qualified youth workers, providing officers with an extensive array of methods and resources for effective engagement with those poised to benefit most.

Beyond school-based interactions, officers have previously utilised funding to cultivate activities that occupy and enrich young people's leisure time. These initiatives encompass professional fishing coaching, mixed martial arts, boxing, cycling, tailor-made youth clubs, and excursions to various landmarks.

Such strategies facilitate the dismantling of barriers, commend commendable conduct, foster enduring positive behaviours, forge constructive relationships, and proffer opportunities to young people who might otherwise lack access to them.

WHO



Young people are chosen for **Reform** based on a multitude of factors. These may encompass experiences of previous childhood trauma, apprehensions regarding their associations, concerns from parents, insights from police intelligence, suboptimal school behaviour or attendance, involvement in criminal activities, or participation in antisocial conduct.

However, these rationales are **not exclusively negative**. Often, the selected youths have not previously attracted police attention, and the intervention is entirely pre-emptive in nature.

Participation in this initiative should not be construed as a negative reflection on your child. It is imperative to understand that this program is not exclusively intended for students who exhibit challenging behaviour. It is a proactive measure, aiming to support a broad spectrum of students in navigating their developmental journey.

WHY

Reform champions proactive, positive engagement, stumping traditional reactive policing methods. A myriad of indicators may signal a young person's potential to benefit from this intervention.

Our aim is to respond swiftly to these indications, providing abundant opportunities for young people to overcome obstacles that hinder their progress on a constructive path.

Police officers wield significant influence within their communities, particularly among the youth. Our mission is to ensure that young individuals have access to such positive role models, guiding them away from detrimental influences in their community. Reform presents a prime avenue to achieve this aspiration.

Central to our approach is a trauma-informed methodology, which forms the cornerstone of our engagement sessions. Developing a deep understanding of young individuals is crucial and by dedicating our time, resources, and authority towards enhancing their lives, we create a ripple effect of benefits for all involved.



WHAT IS
THE FEEDBACK
SO FAR FOR
REFORM?

POLICE

PARENTS



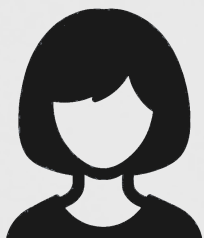
"My son is very happy working with PC Byrne. James did a great job with him and his confidence has come back and impacted him positively. My son was able to open up more as he used to be closed with regards to his feelings. With James, he feels like he can speak with him. He has found a person who will listen and understand him. The way PC Byrne approaches him is very positive and it's like he knows how to approach him. My son has now got more close to us, he is more cheerful and positive and is more himself and open. Reform has brought positive energy to my family and if we ever had any issues, James was always there to support us and guide my son if he was worried or had any issues"



"Reform is proactive, engaging, productive, exciting and more effective than anything my son has done previously. It's given him a taste of different hobbies he can take part in, rather than the usual things he did. Reform has been incredibly positive. It has impacted my son in a very positive way and it's opened his eyes to other opportunities available for him. He's become more proactive himself and hopefully it's stopped any other occurrences of what was happening before. Things are now better at home and my son is happier and more open. It's a much better atmosphere."



"Reform has been a great help in getting my son back on the right track and I'm so appreciative of all that PC Byrne has done for him. He knows he can talk to him whenever he wants to, he trusts him and he knows he will look after him. Reform has impacted him in a very positive way and he has started to think about the decisions he makes and his attendance at school has improved. He's been doing better at school too, which is good. At home my son has improved he is happier and opens up more to me and his stepdad. We also know we can contact James when we are worried about him, which helps us feel happier as well."



"James has had an amazing impact on my child and I don't think I would have been able to handle the situation without his support. It was nice to see someone that can actually see what is happening from the outside. James has helped amazingly. My sons behaviour has improved and he is now able to communicate better. He went from running away from being more conscious about it and the impact it has. His attitude to me has improved since working with James. James should be prized, he is an amazing Police Officer one of the best ones that I have ever met. He does not give up."

STUDENTS



"I was put on reform for posting not nice pics of girls on social media and shoplifting. I was scared and anxious because it was the Police and afterwards I felt confused because it's the Police but they were there to help me and didn't shout. I felt relieved. I'm not naughty anymore and my attendance is starting to improve at school. I've stopped shoplifting and I feel better after the meetings. If I was ever in trouble again, I would speak to PC Katie"



"I started Reform because I was smoking and chilling with the wrong people. I was nervous and didn't know what to expect but felt better afterwards and got lots of things off my chest and knew PC Byrne was there to support me. If I'm ever in trouble again I would speak to PC Byrne. It's made me think about the things I was doing and think twice before doing them. Reform taught me to understand risks and because of my dad being poorly it has made me want to calm down with what I was doing"



"I was getting into trouble in and out of school so was put on Reform. I was a bit nervous at first and did not know what to expect but I felt calmer after talking to PC Byrne. If I was ever in trouble again I would go to my mum or PC Byrne if I need to talk. Reform has got me out of trouble and it helps me with talking to people "



"I was put on Reform because I jumped a kid and was nervous because it was my first time speaking to a Police Officer. I felt calmer after starting because it wasn't bad. If I was ever in trouble I would speak to PC Byrne because I trust him and he is a nice Police man. I now follow rules easier in and out of school and he does everything to help me"



WHAT'S NEXT?

WE'LL BE IN CONTACT SOON



We are delighted to inform you that your child has been identified as a potential participant for **Reform**. This initiative offers valuable opportunities that we believe could significantly benefit your child.

If you haven't yet been contacted by us, an Officer or a member of **New Park Academy** staff will reach out to you shortly. We are eager to discuss the specifics of the Reform intervention, how it aligns with your child's needs, and to seek your consent for their participation.


Should you have any questions or concerns in the meantime, please feel free to contact us using the information provided on the final page of this document.

POLICE




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