

# INNIT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE CHARITY

I4YPC (Innit for Young People Charity) encourages and inspires young people to express themselves through the Arts and education; providing life-changing opportunities, to help develop their skills and employability. We deliver our programmes in a variety of settings and aim to reduce the negative cycle of exclusion and prevent entry into the Criminal Justice System.

"...year in year out I have witnessed numerous children who have 'fallen through the cracks' and been led down a path of self-destruction. The aims of the charity to educate and foster a passion for learning that will promote successful choices in life is commendable." Mrs Larsen-Taylor, Vice Principal

Micky Dacks (Founder and Chief Executive of I4YPC) has worked with disadvantaged young people and those on the cusp of school exclusion for over two decades. His work comes from the heart due to his lived experience and first-hand knowledge of the Criminal Justice System.



Micky was a troubled young person who was excluded from every school he attended, experienced long spells of homelessness as a teenager, battled with drug addiction and eventually ended up serving a nine-month jail sentence.

Whilst serving time in prison, Micky wrote a series of poems about his life growing up on the streets of Manchester and Salford. With the help of his probation officer and some creative friends, he was able to capture his experiences and write a full-scale, diversionary musical extravaganza - 'Innit'!



'Innit Musical' is a real-life, no holds barred story of Ashley Thompson, a teenage lad growing up on the streets of Salford who tries to stay on the straight and narrow.

With a troubled home life, Ashley tries navigating love and loss, but with the added complication of being antagonised by the local gang who try and embroil him in their criminal exploits, eventually landing him a prison sentence.

It's a heart-warming tale of triumph in the face of adversity, with characters that teenagers can recognise and relate to, whilst also having an aspirational story that has a proven track record of transforming young lives and dissuading entry into the criminal justice system.

'Innit' has a narrative full of plot twists and contemporary issues which tackle a host of curriculum areas such as:

# **RSE (Relationships and Sex Education)**

- ✓ Families.
- ✓ Respectful relationships (including friendships).
- ✓ Being safe.

## SMSC (Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development)

#### **Spiritual**

 ✓ sense of enjoyment and fascination, use of imagination and creativity, willingness to reflect on their experiences.

#### <u>Moral</u>

Recognising the difference between right and wrong, understanding consequences of their behaviour.

## Social Development

✓ Using social skills in a different context (theatre trip).

## **Cultural Development**

✓ Willingness to participate and respond positively to artistic and musical cultural opportunities, understanding and appreciating the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their heritage.

I4YPC have designed tried and tested Arts-based Schemes of Learning which are fully differentiated and have been co-created with young people!

The schemes available are:

✓ 'The Gang' – Drama KS3 (Year 9) or KS4 (Year 10 as an introduction to GCSE Drama)

'The Gang' focuses on the skills of creating and sustaining atmosphere and tension, Greek chorus and working as an ensemble.

✓ 'Smithy's Song' – KS3 Music

'Smithy's Song' is a composition based scheme which uses the song lyrics and character knowledge as a basis for creating music....in any style!

✓ 'The Slammer' – KS3 Music.

'The Slammer' is a performance-based scheme which uses one of the most catchy and upbeat songs from the show as a vehicle to encourage solo and ensemble performances!

I4YPC utilises 'Innit' as a vehicle to engage even the most disaffected and disenfranchised learners.

"The musical itself is creative and vibrant, bold and forward thinking. It will certainly build and enhance students' cultural capital. For many it will be their first experience of live theatre. There are some, however, who will be exposed to a powerful message that may well resonate with them and cause them to pause and think about the current direction of their lives and ultimately, change direction for the better."

- Mr I Thomas, Deputy Head

'Innit Musical' returns to The Lowry's stage in September 2023 for a two-week run at The Quays theatre with spectacular, state-of-the-art production guaranteed to keep young people on the edge of their seats!

# **Previous Productions**



"Gutsy enough to have the target audience of local teenagers whooping with recognition...it gets kids excited about going to the theatre and that's what it's all about, innit."



\*\*\*I4YPC are offering Greater Manchester schools the opportunity for their pupils to receive an inspirational visit from Innit's writer and director, Micky Dacks, as part of their group booking (minimum booking 30 tickets including staff).

This would normally incur a charge of £300.\*\*\*

\*\*\*Post-show discussions will take place with the director and some members of the cast. You are welcome to join us on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 4.45-5.15PM\*\*\*

CW // The musical explores the negative impact of relatable issues such as domestic violence, self-harm, knife crime and criminal exploitation. These themes are depicted with integrity and are pivotal to reaching the aspirational climax of the overall story. Expletives are used throughout the musical, but only in context of the characters.

TW // The play utilises lighting effects which may be sensitive to some audience members. There will be a relaxed performance on Wednesday 20th September, where such lighting effects shall not be used, and the house lights will be semi-illuminated.

For group bookings:

e. groups@thelowry.com t. 0161 876 2003

For further information on I4YPC:

e. <u>admin@i4ypc.org.uk</u> t. 073664 44972



To book Micky Dacks for an inspirational talk in your school, or to obtain I4YPC's Schemes of Learning:

Ange Lea Director of Creative Learning e. <u>ange.lea@i4ypc.org.uk</u> t. 07845 183767