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|  | **INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS** | Description: Description: Description: GSCCLogoTransparentLowRes02 |

We hope you will find the enclosed 5 minute educational DVD to be a valuable resource for the classroom. It can be used as a conversation starter for teachers to encourage discussion around the subject of peer pressure associated with any anti-social and high risk behaviour.

The DVD, ‘Your Move’ is intended to encourage our local youth to make better life choices by highlighting some positive suggestions. It has been designed to focus on the decisions of the individuals while deliberately avoiding criticism and heavy handed messages around law enforcement and penalties.

We are asking all schools in the Shepparton region to partner with us in the project. Your assistance with completion and return of the feedback surveys, comprising 8 mostly multiple choice questions, will enable Council to capture the impressions of the students in order to gauge the success of the project for our funding body, the Department of Justice. It will also enable us to record their suggestions for consideration in possible future community programs.

**Teachers please also complete the attached checklist for classroom activity**

***POLICE RESOURCES***

Members of Victoria Police – Shepparton are available to address the students as part of this activity.

Please contact [dean.lloyd@police.vic.gov.au](mailto:dean.lloyd@police.vic.gov.au) or [glenn.gibson@police.vic.gov.au](mailto:glenn.gibson@police.vic.gov.au) to arrange a suitable time.

**IMPORTANT**

In speaking about graffiti vandalism, we need to be careful that we do not provide motivation for young people to perform acts of graffiti vandalism.

If you have any questions in relation to any part of the project please contact Sue Whitcombe, Project Coordinator, on 5832 9352 or by email at [sue.whitcombe@shepparton.vic.gov.au](mailto:sue.whitcombe@shepparton.vic.gov.au)

***ABOUT GRAFFITI***

Graffiti has been a means of communication for thousands of years. There is no ‘typical’ profile for a person who does graffiti. While it is not uncommon for those in their 20s, most graffiti is done by teenagers and most ‘tagging’ is done by boys aged around 15 years. They can be from stable backgrounds, with loving families and good social networks as well as from unstable backgrounds (Goodbye Graffiti Website, 2011). They can also:

* often have experienced alienation at school
* use drugs more often than their peers
* be more likely to suffer depression, feelings of hopelessness & anxiety
* have greater risk taking behaviours
* be involved in other types of crime

The purposes for which people do graffiti are also diverse. For some it is a political statement, for others it is a form of artistic expression. For some it is about seeking individual identity, for others it is about seeking acceptance within a group. *(G. Keats,* [*The Motivations Behind Graffiti*](http://www.asial.com.au/Assets/156/1/GaffitiMotivation.pdf)*).*

Other common reasons include:

* Lack of other activities available
* Lack of self esteem
* To mark their territory
* Rebellion

Some research suggests that at least 50% of young people will never do graffiti vandalism *(Martin, 2003, 2005).*

There are another 40% of young people who might be prevented from committing graffiti vandalism because they have become more aware of the impacts and consequences of graffiti vandalism on people who matter to them and the wider community. This is the target demographic for the ‘Your Move’ project.

It is also estimated that 10% of young people will find glory in the title of ‘graffiti vandal’. These individuals are unlikely to change their attitudes. Our only means of managing this demographic is rapid removal and through the judicial system. This is where CCTV, cameras and reporting to police are our best resources.

***CHECKLIST FOR TEACHERS***

**Classroom activity**

***‘Your Move’***

|  |  |
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|  | Completed  ✔ |
| Play the DVD for your students |  |
| Students complete Q1 of survey  Names are optional, but ages and grades are required please |  |
| Encourage discussion on the topic of peer pressure and some relative scenarios.  Role play is usually effective if time permits |  |
| Read the information brochure (Street Art) |  |
| Working through the sheet with them, ask each student to answer the balance of questions on the survey form |  |
| We are especially interested in your comments on the DVD and survey process.  Any feedback you provide would be most appreciated. |  |
|  |  |
| Please return forms to Sue Whitcombe (at address below)   * + student surveys   + this completed checklist |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| School | Grade | Teacher | e-mail |
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Council sincerely thanks you for your co-operation with this activity. You will be notified of the results of the survey (via email) when all the data is collected. This is expected to be available by 30 November 2014.

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|  | Description: Description: Description: GSCCLogoTransparentLowRes02 | *Sue Whitcombe*  *Project Coordinator – Your Move*  *Greater Shepparton City Council*  *Locked Bag 1000*  ***SHEPPARTON VIC 3630*** | *Ph: 5832 9352* [*sue.whitcombe@shepparton.vic.gov.au*](mailto:sue.whitcombe@shepparton.vic.gov.au) |