

KINGSTON INFORMATION DEALERS

COVID?



Lewis Woodhead interviews Lynn Lock from the I.D Team

In a small, mutant looking nut-shell... what is the I.D team?

Well, we are like a box of chocolates and hopefully there would be a worker and a style of working that suites every young person in Kingston around their needs of substance use.

Where do your meetings take place?

The team meets at Eagle Chambers but we will go anywhere to meet the young people. We can be found in youth clubs, schools and other places across the borough where young people go.

How can young people find out about the I.D team? How do you promote yourself?

We are currently revamping our website (which is www.sorted4.info). We also advertise on playing cards and word of mouth, which is very powerful. The team also does drop-ins at schools and we are occasionally at the Works for the Teen Dreams nights.

If a young person came to the team for help and support, could you guarantee confidentiality?

In a sense that the things they tell you wouldn't be told to their parents or later exploited or published.

We definitely would not ever publish the young person's information or details. We have a team confidentiality and the reason for this is because if someone comes to see myself, I may not be the right person to solve their problems or needs. However, if a young person told me they were being forced to take drugs, I would try and encourage them to get help. I always try to tell the young person that they have confidentiality before they tell me their problems.

Lets place ourselves in a very realistic and possible situation... if someone was being pressured into taking drugs by their friends and needed some information about that drug, how could you help them?

We would try to answer any questions that a young person may have, then we would hand out leaflets and look through websites with them. We will try to give a balanced opinion and promote "harm reduction" which is all about the right choices to make. No drugs worker will just say "drugs are bad" because young people would know that we are lying and we would lose all credibility. That young person wouldn't come back. As a team, we try to put forward the negatives and positives of drugs.