



WELCOME PACK



The Precious Trust was set up in 2012 with the vision of creating pathways to positive futures for girls and young women.

The Trust is chaired by former Home Secretary, Jacqui Smith and was founded by Dr Marcia Shakespeare MBE, in loving memory of her daughter, Letisha Precious Shakespeare. Letisha Shakespeare was an innocent victim of a New Year gang shooting in Birmingham in 2003. Since the death of her daughter, Marcia has worked tirelessly to raise awareness about the very real problem of gangs and the devastating impact their activity has on individuals, families and communities.

The Precious Trust overall vision is to help keep girls safe from harm and enable them to have positive futures. The charity aims to reach girls and young women who are aged between 12 and 25 years old who are at risk of gang activity, violent crime and sexual exploitation. The charity also has a keen interest in reaching girls and young women who are at risk of being 'missed' due to not being identified and/or not engaging with other support services.

Since 2012, The Precious Trust has directly supported 1192 vulnerable girls and young women through the Precious Choices Education Programme which is a bespoke specialised programme developed to address the unique needs of the females that we support. This programme has successfully proven to develop key skills and knowledge and trigger positive changes in behaviour and attitudes through addressing root issues, openly discussing sensitive topics and raising aspirations.

This year Marcia, Founder and Director of The Precious Trust, was honoured for the work she has done for victims of crime and for leading a tireless drive for peace after the murder of her daughter, Letisha Precious Shakespeare. Marcia has received an MBE in the Queen's New Year Honours list for her work to combat gang, gun and knife crime and has been awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Law from Newman University. Marcia has also been awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Pride of Birmingham Awards Ceremony in April 2017.

The judges at the Pride of Birmingham Awards Ceremony commented that: "Marcia's love for her daughter shines through in everything she has done. And her work has had a massive impact on the lives of so many young people".

The Trust are proud to announce that the charity has been awarded funding from West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner. This funding will allow the charity to offer free Precious Choices Workshops to support the most vulnerable girls in our region.



In Loving Memory of Letisha Precious Shakespeare 1985—2003

## "My work continues and there is so much more to do"

## PRECIOUS CHOICES EDUCATION PROGRAMME

#### What is on offer?

There are three modules available for you to book. The first teaching module is on decision making and joint enterprise, the second module is on healthy relationship and the final module is on grooming and child sexual exploitation. Each workshop will focus on a different module. These modules are available to book individually, as a package or as one workshop which will include an overview on all modules. The teaching resources incorporates a range of active learning methods to address sensitive issues and to facilitate positive discussions. The teaching programme also fulfils requirements of the PSHE curriculum in the areas of supporting moral and social development. There may also be opportunity to tailor the workshop sessions to suit the learning objectives of the group. All girls who attend this session will also receive a certificate to provide an academic benefit that could potentially be put towards further qualifications.

#### Who is this for?

The workshops are aimed at girls and young women aged between 12 –25 years old who live in the West Midlands. The teaching programme has been designer to support females who are at risk of gang activity, violent crime and child sexual exploitation. If you need help identifying at risk girls and young women, please send the team and email and they will be happy to help you.

#### Who will lead the workshops?



Dr Marcia Shakespeare MBE is the Founder and Director of The Precious Trust. Marcia started the charity in loving memory of her daughter, Letisha Precious Shakespeare, who was tragically killed in a gang shooting in Birmingham in 2003. Marcia has a BA (Hons) in Sociology and Psychology, a PGCE, an MA in Teaching and Learning and has recently been given an Honorary Doctorate in Law from Newman University. As a trained teacher and presenter, Marcia has spoken to over 90,000 young people with The Precious Trust, The Prince's Trust and West Midlands Police.



Jessica Pritchard is the Programme Manager and Designer of the Precious Choices Education Programme and has been working with the charity since 2013. Jessica has a First-Class BA (Hons) in Children and Integrated Professional Care and is currently studying for a MSc in Psychology with hopes to qualify as an Educational Psychologist in the future. Jessica has experience in supporting young offenders and young people with complex needs. Jessica has key skills and knowledge in inclusive education, managing challenging behaviours and de-escalation.

#### **Practical considerations:**

The sessions are designed to last 2 hours. It could be delivered in 1 hours although this would obviously involve curtailing some activities. The sessions are designed for small group of 5—15 girls. We would be willing to discuss other arrangements, but please note that this is not designed as a large scale presentation. The sessions have been thoughtfully put together to ensure that it can accommodate the different learning needs of the participants. We will need a room and a computer and projector suitable for playing video clips. We may require a small amount of photocopying, however, we will provide all other resources as well as a certificate of attendance for those taking part.

#### How do I book a workshop and what is the cost?

The Precious Trust is currently offering free workshops to schools, charities and youth groups who work with girls and young women in the West Midlands. The charity are able to offer this service due to the funding of West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner. The number of free workshops that are available are limited so please book your workshop as soon as possible. To book, just send an email to <a href="mailto:theprecioustrust@gmail.com">theprecioustrust@gmail.com</a> and request a booking form.

# MEET THE TEAM



Rt Hon Jacqui Smith Chair of the Trust

Former Home Secretary, Chair of four organisations including two leading NHS Foundation Trusts



Karen McGrath

Trustee

Programme Leader at Birmingham City University



### Dr Marcia Shakespeare MBE

Founder and Director

Trained teacher and presenter. Spoken to over 90,000 young people in the West Midlands.



#### Sandra Shakespeare Trustee

Tustee

Regional Business Director



#### Kath Stanczyszyn

Trustee

BBC Political Reporter, West Midlands



Jessica Pritchard
Programme Designer

Precious Choices Education Programme Designer

"The Precious Trust taught me I don't have to be afraid to say no"

"Should be seen by every woman in Birmingham" "A really positive and effective intervention"

"Inspiring, encouraging and educational"

> "It made me think about my past and what I want in my future"



### Book a workshop now:

theprecioustrust@gmail.com



@precioustrust

Funded by:



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