



YOLO! (you only live once)

The Yolo theatre project was commissioned by North Yorkshire County Council in 2013. In response to findings from a youth survey into lifestyle choices **An Invisible Man** were asked to create a new interactive play and workshop that could play to year 9 audiences across the county and beyond.

Asked to examine and address many of the contemporary risky behaviours of mid teens in the county we researched, met and interviewed young people and education and health professionals and worked then further with young people to generate the authentic stories that the play contains.



Focusing on a particular dramatic week in the lives of two 15 year olds in the same community we explore and highlight how even seemingly casual actions or choices we make can have huge repercussions on our lives, physically and emotionally.

Our two principal teenage characters are “normal” well functioning teenagers in a state school setting. One happens to have a parent in the armed forces and the other principal teen character is “civilian”.

Through their stories, which overlap at a key point, we look at, among other things, alcohol, legal highs, sexting, online bullying, healthy relationships, sexual health (inc STI's), teenage pregnancy and online safety (or otherwise...).

The play has now toured to secondary schools in N. Yorks and beyond several times, including to MOD service schools in Germany, and it has been seen by well over 8000 students over the past few years.

The offer to your school is that for a single day booking the company will deliver the play/workshop package twice in a day over 2 x 2hr blocks. The play lasts 55 minutes and the follow on workshop 65 mins. This tends to fit into school timetables neatly where we will deliver session one to half of year 9 or 10 during P1&2 and then the second session to the other half of the year group either p3&4 or p4 & 5.



We favour and recommend this structure of smaller audiences, as the student experience is greatly impaired when they are sat in full year groups, too many are present (in full year group sittings) to make the theatre experience intimate enough to be engaging for all or to make the workshop truly inclusive and interactive. It is much better, we find, with the split year group, which is why we suggest and offer this as our refined daily model to schools.

The cost to schools for the day as laid out above is only £850.

We would be delighted to hear from you if you would like to enquire about booking us to visit your students or also to answer any further questions you might have about the production and workshop.

Our contact details are:

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some quotes from recent audiences (students and teachers)

Fantastic, amazing, thought provoking. It was so good, better than I could ever have hoped for. I am defiantly going to have them back to work with our year 10

'The production and workshop was outstanding, the kids, and staff are still bouncing about their experiences, some cracking evaluations so far with Year 9'.

'The YOLO project? It was brilliant - I really feel that it made some of our more vulnerable students stop and think about their behaviour.'

'The risky behaviours production, Yolo was simply fantastic. All the students really engaged both with the production and workshop activities.'