



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/NPS's, sexting, online bullying, healthy relationships, sexual health (inc STI's), teenage pregnancy and online safety (or otherwise...).

Since 2014 the play has toured to secondary schools in N. Yorkshire and way beyond, including to MOD service schools in Germany, and it has been seen by well over 15,000 students around the UK 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.

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 feedback for YOLO

Fantastic, amazing and really thought provoking. It was so good, better than I could ever have expected. I am definitely going to have the company back to work with our year 10 (Assistant Head)

'The production and workshop was outstanding, the kids, and staff are still bouncing about their experiences, some cracking evaluations with our Year 9'. (HOY9)

" It was really good because it was well funny but it was about real stuff we know is going on" (year 9 student)

"The actors were brilliant, but the workshop bit afterwards was even funnier and we learned loads about stuff that we just sort of thought we knew but maybe didn't" (year 9 student)