

www.l8r.uk.net

**Award
winning**

**PSHEE, Citizenship, English, Drama,
ICT and Lifeskills Resource**



L8R

THEIR FUTURES, YOU DECIDE...

'The kids love L8R – it really has an impact around the building.'
Lee Hagger, Assistant Head Teacher, Tom Hood School, London





'I've used L8R in many schools and Pupil Referral Units and I'd recommend it to anyone. It's one of the best sex and relationships resources I've come across – it really engages young people'

Justine Cottle, Sex and Relationships Education Trainer and Consultant, London

What is L8R?

L8R is an award winning interactive drama and comprehensive learning resource. It is designed for use with 12-17 year olds in formal education in PSHEE, Citizenship, ICT, English & Drama, and in non-formal education across a range of Life-skills issues. It works well with vulnerable young people in a range of youth and alternative education settings, and with Looked After young people.

L8R's strong characters and storylines are specifically designed to engage young people in thinking about their own attitudes, behaviour and choices in key areas, including:

- **Sex & relationships and sexual health**
- **Teenage pregnancy and early parenthood**
- **Alcohol and drugs use**
- **Bullying and peer pressure**
- **Gangs and youth crime**
- **Self esteem, emotional wellbeing, friendships**
- **Identifying relevant sources of information and support**

Voting, Polls, Forums and the Showcase in L8R are designed so that young people can actively contribute to the project. All these features can be used by practitioners as triggers for discussion and project work.



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L8R – features

The L8R drama and website are the core of a range of integrated activities and resources for both young people and practitioners. The drama develops in 10min TV drama episodes, distributed on the BBC Learning Zone, DVD and the website. The combination of features that make L8R unique are:

- **Voting** to effect how current episodes proceed
- **Polls** on previous episodes, which then show how your site voted compared to others
- **Moderated Forums** for each episode where young people can talk to and advise the characters and debate issues
- **Advice & Information Centre** where young people can access links and information on topics from sexual health, to bullying, to gangs...

- **L8R World**, an animated area in Series 1 only, where young people can find out what else is going on in the characters lives and explore their motivations
- **Online Peer Mentoring & Mentor Training**
- **Showcase** area, where young people's creative work is published
- **Social Networking Pages** – L8R characters have pages on Bebo, Myspace and Facebook, edited by L8R's Youth Editors Team.

Each young person creates their own login to use the L8R website, once they have their site access code from their Practitioner. They can then use their login to access the site from home, internet cafes, libraries etc.

'It is really a very good resource...excellent because there are so many relevant issues...about their own situations...of being looked after.'

'L8R has been mainstreamed across all our homes now. It's an excellent resource – totally relevant.'

Clare Lamont, Health Promotion Specialist, Shaftesbury Young People, London

Practitioners facilities

Activities for each episode, using most of the features described above, are distributed in a comprehensive Practitioners Pack, and available for download on the website.

The Practitioners Area of the website is being developed all the time, and currently features:

- **A Forum** to share information with colleagues
- **Downloadable activities** for all episodes, regularly updated
- **Case Studies** of successful practice





'If you had a situation, you kinda think – where should I go? So now I know...'

Year 11 Student, Bridge Education Pupil Referral Unit, Camden, London

L8R – local partnerships

We welcome partnerships with Local Authorities, Primary Care Trusts, Children's Trusts and other organizations wishing to rollout L8R locally. We can build partnerships that include:

- **Practitioner Training** to teach or refresh PSHE skills, build practitioner confidence using the resource, help effective rollout
- **Discounted** rates for bulk registrations
- **A Local Information and Advice page**, on the L8R site – providing young L8R users with links to local advice, information and services in your area
- **Bespoke online mentoring** for young people in PRUs, Schools, YOTs or any other Youth Group in your area
- **Mentor Training & Accreditation**
- **L8R Creative Workshops** for young people

L8R's themes have been devised in consultation with young people, teachers, youth workers and other practitioners. They mirror key elements of the National Curriculum and Youth Service Curriculum Guidance, and are designed to support Every Child Matters themes.

If you would like to explore any of the above options, and/or arrange a L8R presentation for you and your colleagues, please contact us.

To register your interest please complete the enclosed registration form or contact L8R on: tel: 020 7538 8075, email: info@l8r.uk.net or visit the L8R website: www.l8r.uk.net





L8R – practitioner training

L8R is a rich resource and independent evaluations have found that practitioners of all kinds benefit substantially from hands-on training in using it.

We provide tailor-made training for teachers, youth workers and all other practitioners, adapted to your setting. This can range from a full day's practical experience including needs assessment and session planning, to a basic 3 hour session with some opportunity to log on and access the site.

Our strong training team combines experience of face-to-face work with vulnerable young people, and professional training for practitioners in group work skills and delivering successful PSHEE and SRE. We can deliver complete programmes of professional training for all practitioners, including those working with young people with challenging behaviour, vulnerable teenagers and teenage parents.

Please contact us to discuss details and prices.

Evaluation

An independent evaluation report produced by the University of the West of England said:

'L8R's success in engaging hard-to-reach young people is due to the quality and relevance of the drama, the 'safe' ways in which young people can address issues, and the richness and flexibility and different features of the resource which support use in different contexts.'

'The resource works well...by providing a fictional context in which to consider sensitive issues...It is notable that young men got involved in thinking and talking about teenage pregnancy.'

'Just wanted to say a very big thank you for today's INSET. You were very measured, calm, knowledgeable, approachable and informative.

The participants and I gained greatly from your input.'

**Amanda Gould, Vale Royal Extended Services Locality
Co-ordinator, Cheshire County Council**

L8R – peer mentoring and workshops

Online mentoring for your group

We run a unique programme of 'bespoke' peer mentoring, where your group gets a series of their own 1 hour online chat sessions with our trained mentors. Sessions can be themed for your group – eg around crime, bullying, gangs, relationships, sexuality, or anything else. A series can also include face-to-face sessions.

We also provide open scheduled 1 hour sessions on a regular basis at times advertised on the site. These are open to all young people registered on the L8R site. For more information about our mentoring programme, including safety issues, please go to www.l8r.uk.net and click on Mentoring.

Mentor Training & Accreditation

We train groups of 16-25 year old young people from across the UK as mentors. Our mentors have often been through challenging life experiences themselves, and value the opportunity of sharing their experience. We offer accreditation to mentors through the ASDAN Peer Mentoring Award.

Peer Educators

We train Peer Educators, often enabling them to use the resources of L8R to work with groups around sex & relationships, sexual health, and gangs, gun & knife crime.

Creative Workshops

We run intensive Creative Workshops, often taking off from the L8R story and characters, enabling young people to develop their own drama or digital media work, which is published in the Showcase area of the L8R site.

Please contact us for more information and prices for any of the above.

'I think it's an absolutely brilliant idea because in terms of Citizenship and the PSHE curriculum they are interacting with other young people across the country on issues that are important to them.'

**Lou Minhinnick,
Youth Worker, Plymouth**





L8R – the story...

L8R Series One

The first series of L8R develops in two main storylines and features six central characters: Katy, Ben, Misha, James, Tilly and Danny. This series focuses on themes such as:

- Sex and relationships
- Sexual health
- Teenage pregnancy
- Early parenthood
- Drugs and alcohol awareness
- Self esteem
- Peer pressure

Here's a quick look at Series One...

James' mates all think he's having sex with Misha, and the pressure isn't helping. Katie's gone AWOL, leaving Ben to cope with their newborn baby. Will she come back? Tilly's tough, outspoken, she's got James' best mate Danny chasing his tail, but is she as confident as she seems?

L8R Series Two

In Series 2 we have moved on three years and introduced some new characters including Queen B, Keira, Carlton, No Comment, TB and young Zeke. Series 2 extends L8R's reach across the Citizenship and PSHE education curricula. It continues Series 1 themes of sexual health and sex & relationships, while also highlighting:

- Gangs – the pressures on some young people to be part of crime-related gang culture
- Gun & knife crime
- Alcohol, drugs and risky sexual behaviour
- Bullying

Here's a quick look at Series Two...

Out on the estate, No Comment won't leave Carlton alone until he proves whose side he's on... Queen B thinks she's always dodging trouble, but Tilly's not impressed. Katy and Ben look like they've got their lives back on track, but who's Ben blaming for putting little Chanelle in danger? And can Queen B keep her younger brother Zeke away from No Comment's intimidating crew...?

'The boys don't like doing written work, but to see them learn through discussion and talking to their peers, that was probably the main positive.'

**Glenn Kokoszka, Teacher,
Chalcot Special School,
Camden, London**

**For full details of all episodes,
themes, curriculum links and
prices please see attached
supplement.**



L8R – Awards

Award
winning

L8R has won **three** prestigious awards and has been nominated for **four** others since its launch in 2004:

Award wins:

- * BAFTA Children's Award 2008 – Learning, Secondary
- * Basel-Karlsruhe Forum Award 2007 – Multimedia (pan European Educational Media award)
- * UK Royal Television Society Award 2004 – Interactive Education

Award nominations:

BAFTA Children's Interactive 2006
BAFTA Schools Drama 2005
UK Royal Television Society Secondary Interactive 2005
Japan Prize 2004

'This was the bravest of submissions in terms of its subject matter and range of media – a truly cross-platform service.' **Bafta Award Panel**

'Its clear educational aim, clear structure and community building activity made L8R the winner of the City of Karlsruhe Trophy.' **Award Panel, Basel-Karlsruhe Forum, University of Basel, Switzerland**

Producers and funders

L8R is produced by Hi8us South. Hi8us is a leading national media and arts charity working on digital media, drama and arts projects with young people in education and in their communities.

L8R is supported and part-funded by the Department of Health, the Department for Children, Schools and Families, the Big Lottery, the London Councils and the European Social Fund as part of the Inclusion Through Media (ITM) Partnership.

Contact us

For Information, Sales, Local Partnerships, or to arrange a L8R Presentation, please contact us by:

- Completing the **attached registration form**
- Phone the L8R Team on **020 7538 8075**
- Email us at: **info@l8r.uk.net** or
- Visit the L8R website: **www.l8r.uk.net**

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