

## Integrity – lesson plan

### Learning objectives:

- To understand what integrity means and why it is important

### The lesson

*This lesson is about Shona and focuses on her integrity. This also means honesty and is an important part of the development of pupils at this key stage. Please remember the programme is a platform to introduce other issues related to the storyline you consider relevant for your class. For this, you may have to prepare ahead and decide when and where during the lesson you would include them.*

*Since this is the first time you are introducing this PSHE resource to your key stage 3 pupils, it is essential you outline the themes to be covered, and the presentation has a slide with the themes; and follows on with a definition of integrity: 'standing up for what is right'. This puts the story and lesson into context. Please see full length story is on the right-hand side of this page and the next; or alternatively you could use the 'pupil notes' as a guide to understand the text that goes with each illustration.*

### Exercise

#### 1. Should Shona tell the police what she knows about Moo? Why?

*No answer has been provided for this question because the objective is to allow the pupils discuss whether Shona should or shouldn't tell the police and for you to understand why they have given those reasons. You could offer some suggestions based on what they say, but the next question provides an opportunity for the pupils to work through to a logical thinking of what they should do even if you may not agree with the decision.*

#### 2. Will your decision change if Moo steals from a member of your family? If so, why?

*The objective here is to highlight the principle of telling the truth in all circumstances. Moo stealing from a shop (where he doesn't know the owner) and Moo stealing from a member of their family is the same thing, but you may have to guide them to see this and come to that rationalisation on their own. Remember, the pupils have to learn how to take responsibility for their decisions, but sometimes need to be supported to make the right decision through logical thinking; so putting this question right after 'Should Shona tell the police?' is done on purpose to able their thought process.*

Does Shona have the integrity to stand up for what is right when it counts?



### Full length story

Shona has just started this blog, and she needs to make an important decision which could affect one of her friend's lives forever! She knows something that could get her friend into trouble, and she doesn't know if she should tell the truth or keep it to herself. Shona believes she has the best friends in the world! They are always there for each other. They do almost everything together, hang out at each other's houses, do their homework, but most of all, they have a lot of fun together.

Shona talks about Moo who makes them laugh a lot because he's always mucking around, doing silly things like sticking chips in his ears and nose. He is so funny! And there's Mark who they try and teach how to dress but he has no idea about style (but they can't tell him that). Shona says going clothes shopping with him is so funny. But recently things have started to change.

### 3. What could happen to Moo if Shona tells the police?

- Moo could get a criminal record
- He could miss out on his education and his dreams for the future
- He might not get a decent job because nobody will trust him if he has a criminal record

*Generally, most pupils know the difference between right and wrong but do not realize that there is the prospect of jail for such a minor crime (in their own eyes!). It is important for you to get this point across with further discussion, explaining that education and their dreams of the future are important, and a 'simple' or 'minor' crime could end all that.*

*If they say 'they don't care what happens to them', then point out the hurt and pain their friends and family will go through just because of their absence from the home and their lives. Remember there could be pupils who are from broken, fostered or care homes, and face difficult challenges; therefore the discussion could raise some emotion they were probably not expecting and therefore not want to deal with, so please be sensitive.*

### 4. What could happen to Shona if she tells the police?

#### **She would:**

- Get a good reputation amongst her teachers, police and other people as someone who does the right thing
- Be proud of herself for acting as a good citizen
- Have the courage to do it the next time if she has to
- Encourage others to do the right thing
- Lose the friends who didn't want her to tell the police

*It is important for you to highlight the benefits more than the disadvantage(s) of doing the right thing in this circumstance. You could ask them what would make them feel good about who they are. It could be that there are issues on self-esteem and self-respect, so they don't see doing something good for their own benefit. An additional area of discussion within this question is the subject of bullying by those who disagree with her decision to tell the police. This could be used to link in with the topics on Anti-bullying you maybe covering with your PSHE teaching.*

### 5. Would you tell the police what you know if they promised to keep your identity from everyone?

*While there is an obvious answer to the question, the discussion should focus on what the pupils say, and want to discuss. All children want is to feel safe at all times, so to them saying nothing would be the safest and easiest option.*

The group doesn't get to see Moo as much as they used to, because he is with a group of older boys who smoke and drink. But Moo turned up one day after a long while and offered to take them all bowling to make up for his absence. This surprised them because they usually save up for months before they can go. But none of them asked Moo where he got the money from.

A few weeks later, Moo was wearing a new pair of trainers which looked expensive. They asked him where he got them from and he said one of his new friends knew where to get things really cheap. They accepted his answer. But at the weekend, Shona saw Moo being chased out of the local store by a security guard, while some boys were running in the opposite direction with stolen goods hidden under their jackets. Shona thinks Moo was there to distract the guard while the boys stole from the store.

The next Monday morning, the police went to Shona's school, to ask if anyone had any information about the robbery at the weekend. They think it is the same gang who has been shoplifting in the area for the past three months. They said they know a member of the gang attended the Shona's school.

So Shona is worried that Moo is part of this gang the police asked about. She doesn't know if she should tell the police what she saw or keep it to herself. She asks herself, 'is telling the police the right thing to do or not?' 'Also what will happen to Moo if I tell them what I saw?' Shona needs help deciding what to do.

*It is likely most of them would say no because of the long-standing history of lack of trust with the police. It is still important to encourage them that they would be safe when the proper measures are taken to keep their identity safe. You should also point out that keeping information from the police may save them today, but not the next day if the person they are protecting turns round to attack them.*

*You should conclude the session by outlining the key messages below for the pupils.*

**Integrity means:**

- Being sincere and honest
- Telling the truth in all circumstances
- Standing up for your values and beliefs
- Building and keeping a good reputation