

Reporting crime

To report a crime that is taking place, always call 999. If the incident has passed, call Kent Police on 101 or Crimestoppers on **0800 555111**

Social media

For the latest community safety news follow us on Twitter visit **@sdc_csp** and like our Facebook page **Sevenoaks District Community Safety Partnership**

Tackling domestic abuse

For support and advice for all victims of Domestic Abuse call the Domestic Abuse Volunteer Support Service on **01892 570538** For the Community Domestic Abuse Programme for men call **07933 359210**

Reform Restore Respect

Sevenoaks District Community Safety Partnership has teamed up with a local charity, Reform Restore Respect (RRR), to educate young people on the consequences of criminal behaviour and the importance of education.

We put a few questions to Francis Osei, founder of RRR, to learn more about the charity.

What made you set up Reform Restore Respect?

As a young man I was an academic student in the Tottenham area. However, I didn't want to be the 'smart' kid who was bullied, so I rebelled and turned to the gangs to find my sense of belonging and status. Aged 19 I found myself caught up in a serious criminal trial and spent nearly nine years in prison. There I did a lot of soul searching and decided to return to study. I left prison with a degree in Health and Social Care. I used this experience to set up the Reform Restore Respect (RRR) charity to offer pupils' additional educational support.

What's the meaning behind the name?

Reform was chosen as I wanted to make a change and a real difference in the community for young people.

Restore was chosen to help rehabilitate and rebuild confidence and self-esteem in young people.

Respect was chosen and represents the final part of the journey when young people recognise their self-worth, strengths, abilities, qualities, appreciation and respect



Francis pictured at the New School of West Heath, which caters for young people with emotional and social communication difficulties.

for themselves and come away from crime.

Talk us through the work that the charity does?

Through our workshops we challenge the notion that crime is 'cool' and that a prison term will give young people credibility with their peers. In Kent as a whole, the numbers of children aged 15 to 17 going to prison has significantly reduced and our project aims to help drive these numbers down.

We visit schools across Kent, pupil referral units, youth groups and youth

offending services to divert young people away from possible gang membership, antisocial behaviour, petty crime and drugs.

How do young people respond to the work you do?

Really positively and they always seem to take a lot away from the workshops. Our working relationship and partnership with the Sevenoaks District Community Safety Unit continues to ensure that we reach schools across the District and in the last year we have visited 13 primary schools.