

Schools Consent Project Consent Workshops

Name of project	Consent Workshops
Delivered by	Schools Consent Project
Type of work / opportunity	Consent literacy workshops for young people, mainly in schools but also in football clubs and military settings, designed to promote safe, healthy interactions and reduce the risk of sexual harm being experienced or perpetrated.
Topic area	Criminal law: the legal definition of consent, age of consent, key sexual offences, online offences, and how to check for and communicate consent.
What is it?	In-person, lawyer-led consent literacy workshops that give young people a legal toolkit to help shift culture in schools, universities and workplaces, and reduce sexual offending.
Where is it?	SCP operates across England and Wales and is expanding its regional outreach, although many workshops currently take place in and around London and the Home Counties.
Duration	Workshops usually last one hour. Volunteer onboarding takes approximately four hours: a short application form (5–10 minutes), viewing a pre-recorded workshop (40 minutes), attending training in-person or virtually (2.5 hours), and completing a virtual assessment (30–45 minutes).
Frequency	Flexible, with workshops scheduled around lawyer availability. Four to six workshops per academic year are recommended.
Who is the opportunity open to?	Any qualified lawyer entitled to practice in the UK, including those whose SRA practising certificate has not been renewed. Also open to paralegals and trainees who have completed either an undergraduate law degree or postgraduate legal studies. There is no minimum number of lawyers required from a single in-house team.
What expertise does the lawyer need to have?	Criminal law expertise is not required. Ideally, volunteers will have studied or been examined on the Sexual Offences Act 2003 during undergraduate or postgraduate legal studies, but this is not essential.
What do the pro bono volunteers do?	Volunteers deliver one-hour, lawyer-led workshops, individually or in pairs, to 11–18-year-olds. Workshops cover the legal definition of consent, how to recognise consent, bystander intervention, rape, sexual assault, sexting offences, ages of consent, and support options after an assault. Workshops use interactive games and exercises to challenge misconceptions and unearthing toxic attitudes.
Insurance position	No insurance is required because lawyers do not provide legal advice when delivering workshops.

Schools Consent Project Consent Workshops

Other support from organisation/charity	SCP provides training sessions throughout the year which can be attended in-person or virtually. SCP also sources workshops and provides logistical support, workshop documentation (including slides, notes, tips and a background pack on relevant law), safeguarding guidance, and enhanced DBS application costs.
Fee/cost	None. For larger in-house teams with high numbers of interested volunteers there is a paid partnership model. We also partner with many firms, some of whom invite their clients to join them in volunteering with SCP.
Contact	Please contact NPBC In House Pro Bono lead mary@dobsonsmith.consulting for a direct introduction Applications can be made directly, here, using the SCP website application form.
Background to project/scheme	SCP was born out of a conversation between SCP's founder, Kate Parker, and her friend who had been sexually assaulted at work. It was by discussing the incident through a legal lens that her friend began to appreciate the significance of her colleague's actions (she did not give her consent; he did not have reasonable belief in her consent). It was not something that could be brushed aside as a miscommunication or misunderstanding. Kate felt that this analysis of the situation should not be reserved to the courtroom; rather, young people should be equipped with a basic legal knowledge in order to navigate these sorts of interactions safely. A handful of local schools were contacted to see if there was any interest in a lawyer discussing these topics with their students. The appetite was enormous; SCP was born.