



Coram Life Education

**Evaluation of Coram Life Education in
Wessex and Thames Valley**

September 2023 – July 2024

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1 Summary

Life Education Wessex & Thames Valley helps children in Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Dorset, Hampshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and East Swindon make healthy choices. We are a recognised Delivery Partner of Coram Life Education, the UK's leading relationships, health, wellbeing and drugs education programme.

Coram Life Education and its Delivery Partners reach more than 550,000 children every year in over 2,300 schools, teaching life skills through fun, interactive and age-specific activities. Over 50,000 teachers subscribe to our online 'SCARF' resources, supporting their year-round PSHE provision.

Coram Life Education helps children make healthy choices by working with schools to support and contribute to their existing provision for PSHE, including children's health and well-being, behaviour and safety. This report presents the findings of an online questionnaire-based evaluation for the Coram Life Education programme based in the **Life Education Wessex & Thames Valley** area. It presents findings from data collected from **11/09/2023** to **08/07/2024**. **476 members of school staff** took part in the online evaluation during this period.

2 Background

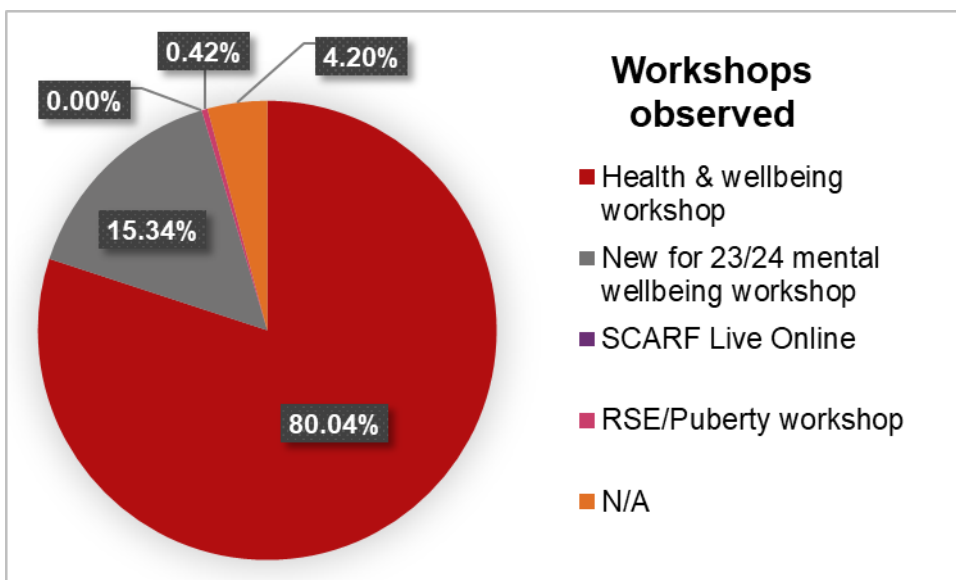
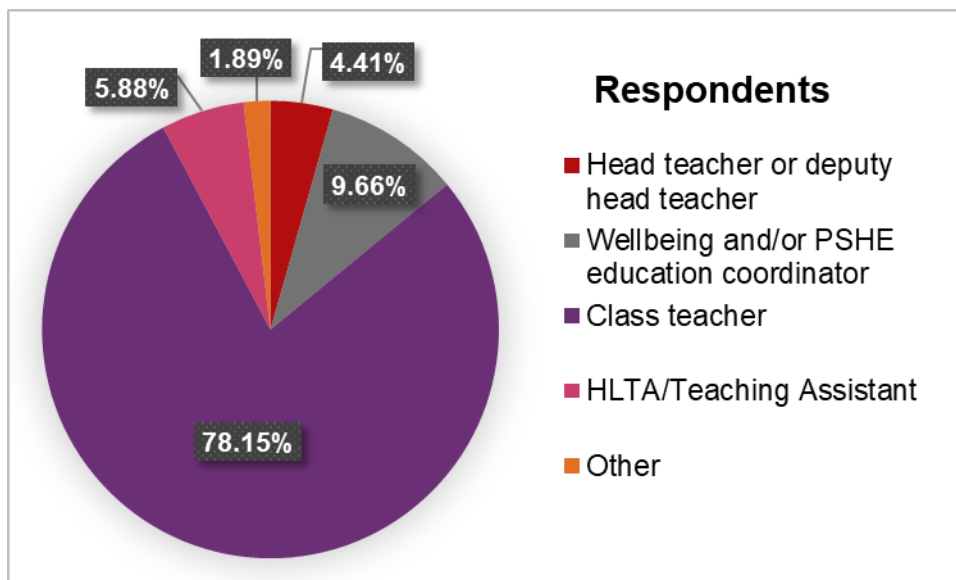
Coram Life Education contributes to the PSHE curriculum. Coram Life Education educators visit children using our inflatable Life Space classrooms, in their own classrooms (LifeBase) or via online workshops (SCARF Live Online), and facilitate sessions working towards key learning outcomes, which are individual to each age group. Educators use a life-skills approach, designed to increase children's knowledge, develop skills and confidence, explore attitudes and clarify values. These three inter-related strands work together to support children in making informed health choices. Coram Life Education provides a number of different workshops to suit the needs of different schools and children, in discussion with the school (*see references for Coram Life Education's Programme Overviews and Learning Outcomes*). In addition to educator-led workshops, 'SCARF' online resources provide teachers with a year-round framework of lesson plans, planning and assessment tools to embed and enhance wellbeing across the school.

Coram Life Education workshops are strongly evidence-based, and the organisation supports schools in meeting the DfE statutory requirements for Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education, as well as helping schools to meet key criteria of the Ofsted Inspection Framework. Coram Life Education has been delivered within Wessex and Thames Valley for over 30 years.

Coram Life Education, with the help of Coram’s Policy and Research team, have designed outcomes-based questionnaires, to provide evidence of the impact of facilitators’ work and SCARF resources within schools. The questionnaires were completed using online survey software after each workshop. This report provides the findings of data collected using these tools in the 2023-2024 school year.

3 CLE in Wessex and Thames Valley schools

In Wessex and Thames Valley schools 476 members of school staff, including class teachers, teaching assistants, PSHE coordinators and head teachers, completed a questionnaire about how the workshops were delivered and the value of the programme to their schools.



4 Benefits of Coram Life Education to schools in the Wessex and Thames Valley area

School staff (teachers, teaching assistants, PSHE coordinators and head teachers) were asked a series of questions in relation to the impact of CLE’s PSHE education and SCARF online resources:

93% of staff agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, **“I am more confident to deliver wellbeing and PSHE education.”**

89% of staff agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, **“I have a deeper understanding of my pupils’ health & wellbeing needs and skills.”**

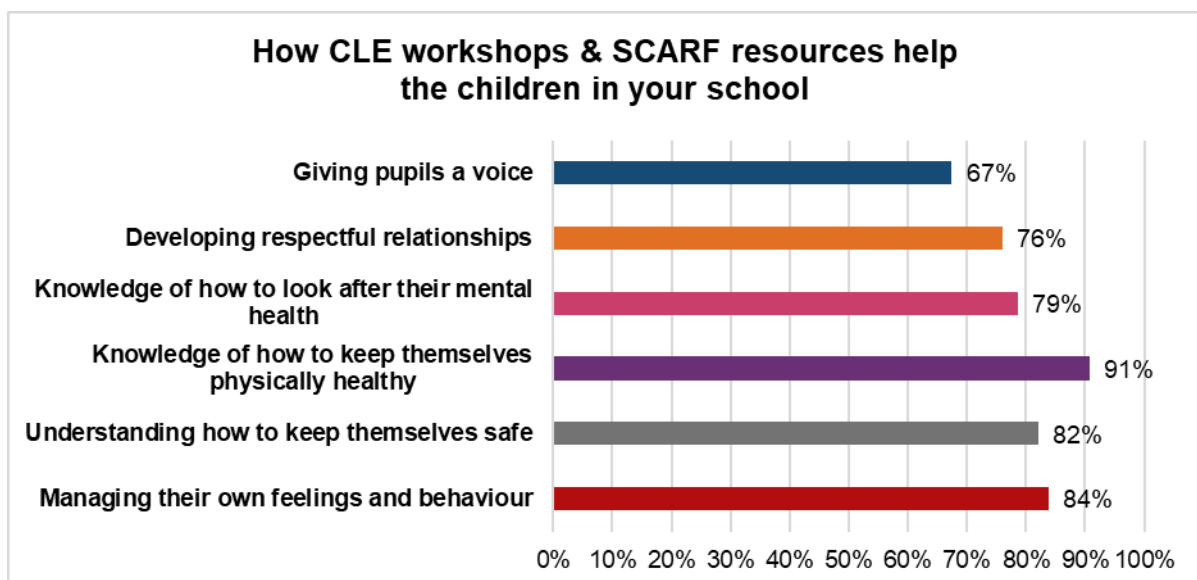
91% of staff agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, **“SCARF has improved PSHE teaching in my school.”**

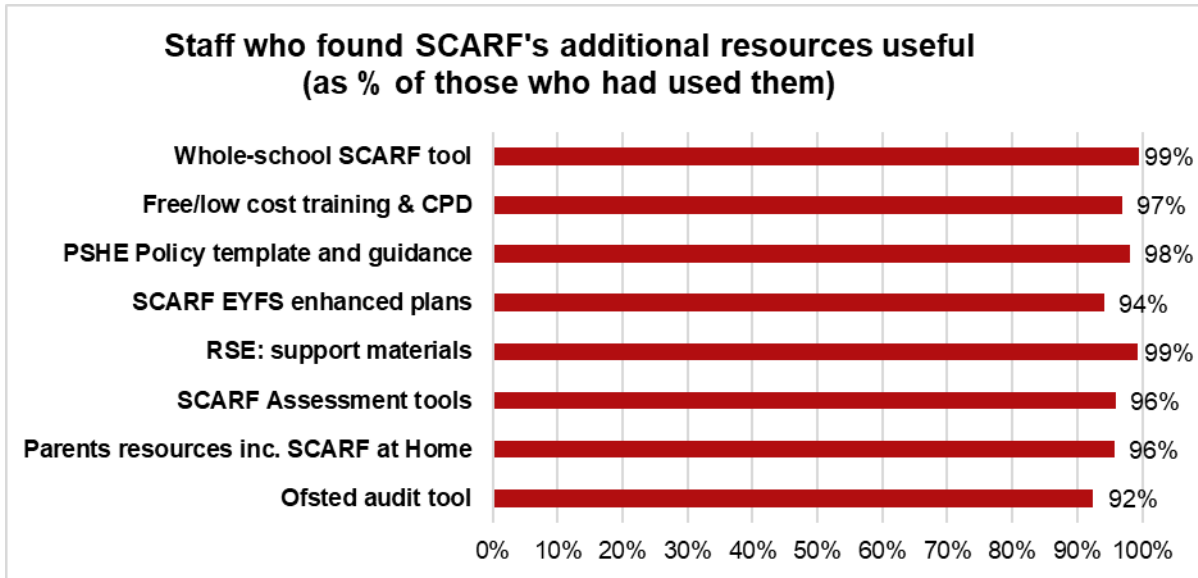
92% of staff agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, **“SCARF is, or will become, an essential part of our school’s PSHE, mental health and wellbeing programme.”**

96% of staff agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, **“SCARF is easy to access and implement in the school.”**

97% of staff agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, **“We employ a whole-school approach to PSHE.”**

95% of staff agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, **“SCARF helps to reduce teacher workload.”**





5 Satisfaction with the Coram Life Education programme

Staff's satisfaction with Coram Life Education

99.6% of staff agreed or strongly agreed that **the CLE workshops were well delivered.**

99.6% of staff agreed or strongly agreed that **the workshops met children's needs.**

88.3% of staff agreed or strongly agreed that **the children could remember things they learnt from a previous visit.**

99.8% of staff said that **they would recommend Coram Life Education and SCARF to another school.**

Comments from staff included:

So much was covered and it was so beautifully delivered that the children haven't even realised how much they've learnt.

The children throughout the school all loved their workshops. They were able to talk about what they had learnt and think about themselves and others in different situations. They have a deeper understanding of keeping themselves safe and healthy and their interaction with others.

SCARF is one of the most comprehensive vehicles we use. The website is very comprehensive, the staff dedicated and informed and the sessions are fantastic.

Our workshop leader was very enthusiastic and relaxed with the children, putting them at ease which encouraged them to share their ideas.

The sessions are so memorable I was blown away by how much the children remembered. Staff have a wonderful way with the children using their names and acknowledging answers. I like the way correct vocabulary (intestine) is shared with the children to extend their knowledge.

The workshop was very well delivered and it was very engaging. It was a fully immersive experience that we wish we had in school permanently!

Fantastic session and delivered so well in the pop up classroom. First experience of SCARF but very impressed.

The workshop was age appropriate and dealt with many issues and scenarios the children might face in the coming years. The educator was able to steer the conversations and tease out thoughts and ideas from the children.

Well delivered in an interactive way with the right amount of challenge and support.

The workshops are very popular with the children. They're a highlight in our school's calendar. The class were buzzing when they found out they were getting a visit from Harold.

The children really enjoy the sessions. It brings the characters to life and it gives them memories to take through the school.

Well delivered and encourages children to voice their own opinions and experiences in a safe environment.

It has given our school structure to our PSHE curriculum and given our staff the confidence to deliver it without adding to their workload.

The learning was accessible to all the children. The information relayed was relevant and helpful as well as allowing myself and trainee teacher to see how a successful PSHE lesson should be delivered.

Engaging workshops with enthusiastic teacher. Very confident at delivering the objectives and happily adapted to meet the needs of the pupils.

Children are centre of all learning and all involvement from children is received with enthusiasm making children feel valued.

It is excellent value for money, a great resource and both pupils and teachers are engaged by the topics and lessons.

SCARF has changed the way I teach PSHE. It has lowered my workload and more importantly, it has improved the quality of learning for the children.

Brilliant workshop - enjoyed by both teachers and students and would love to have you in again!

The children have thoroughly enjoyed all the workshops and found the tent so exciting to visit. Your visit has given us all such a lot to talk through and think about, thank you.

Lovely interactive session with great props but also a really relevant session that the children could understand and relate to.

It is a well rounded workshop with lots of activities, information and a lead who knows her job very well and delivers it in a fantastic, fun way.

They allow the children to think and discuss their thoughts and ideas and enable them to challenge what they believe.

It was really interactive and children were given lots of opportunities to share thoughts and ideas. The topics discussed in the workshop were relevant to things the children might experience in the next few years and will help them to make decisions to keep themselves safe.

As our children are not particularly street wise, the session works really well to build and develop the children's knowledge and understanding and allow them to discuss ideas openly in a safe environment.

The workshop I attended yesterday allowed my pupils to voice their own opinions and experiences whilst learning different coping strategies.

Caroline was able to cover so much in the workshop that was helpful in supporting the children's mental well-being. It linked well into the learning they had previously learnt in the SCARF session and into PSHEE learning we had completed in class. Children were engaged and listened to. Caroline made the session positive for all and made everyone feel included.

It is a very thorough scheme that we feel covers all of the areas that we wanted a PSHE scheme to cover. Our children have grown in confidence and knowledge over the last year since we introduced SCARF to our school and are now more aware of how they can keep healthy (both physically and mentally), stay safe and are better equipped to be able to manage their feelings. We have really liked how the scheme builds on the children's prior learning and knowledge year on year.

The questions, images and tasks built on the children's knowledge and experience to help ascertain where they were currently at and then developed their thinking in 'real life' scenarios.

The session is very interactive, well paced and delivery is clear. Children are encouraged to express their thoughts and share ideas. Different props help to keep children engaged.

SCARF lessons are a time in the week for the children to put all of their worries to one side and reflect on themselves as people. It is when I see my Year 1 class completely themselves and honest.

I watched the new workshop linked to mental wellbeing. It linked emotions to the characters the children know and fitted nicely with our approach within school where we have had a renewed focus since the pandemic.

SCARF has been a great addition to our school, with all classes doing their weekly SCARF lessons on Wednesdays (Scafternoons...), and we hand out SCARF certificates in assembly every Friday. All children know the SCARF values. It has been very useful for RSHE.

It enables the children to make the link between their learning with us and the wider world. Talking with another person about topics such as decisions, etc. demystifies these topics and demonstrates that they are not taboo or naughty topics.

It gives them a safe space to consider current and upcoming issues relevant to their lives.

10/10 every time.

6 Conclusions

Overall CLE workshops have been highly successful, whether delivered in school classrooms, halls or our inflatable Life Spaces. Staff greatly appreciate the opportunity for their pupils to participate in educator-led workshops and report high levels of engagement, enjoyment and learning addressing a variety of issues around physical health, mental wellbeing and relationships. Teachers also highly value the contribution that SCARF resources make to the PSHE curriculum delivered throughout the year in their schools.

7 References

CLE's Programme Overviews provide an overview of individual year groups' programme learning outcomes.

- a. [Health and Wellbeing](#) workshops
- b. [SCARF Live Online](#) workshops
- c. [Mental Wellbeing](#) workshops
- d. [Relationships and Sex Education](#) workshops