

Teacher's Notes for "Why Would You?" interactive film

Context	Why Would You? follows three characters who are deciding whether to go to university. The film addresses the barriers they face when making this decision and ways that they could overcome these barriers.
Overview of Characters	<p>Cameron – under pressure from his dad to apply for law and follow in his sister's footsteps but he wants to study English. Worried he might fail.</p> <p>Ashley – wants to become a psychotherapist so she needs a degree. Feels guilty because her sister needs care and her mum and dad are under financial pressure. Worried about the cost of university and how she will afford to go.</p> <p>Liam – works in his dad's mechanic business and is unsure he wants to go to university. His dad wants him to stay and work but Liam is thinking about studying engineering. Worried that he won't get in because he hasn't done A-levels.</p> <p><i>N.B. (Most universities and colleges in the UK accept Btecs in relevant subject areas, similar to how they would with equivalent A-level qualifications – including competitive universities from the Russell Group.)</i></p>
Student Finance	<p>All the characters are concerned about how much university costs. Cam explains the concept of a student loan and how and when it has to be paid back which persuades Liam and Ashley the cost is manageable. University currently costs up to £9,250 per year for tuition fees. In addition you can take out a maintenance loan to support with living costs. This is obviously a substantial amount of money so it is important pupils understand that it does not have to be paid back until they earn over the threshold. For more information and current figures please see links below: https://nextstepssw.ac.uk/home-page/is-university-for-me/a-guide-to-student-finance/ https://www.ucas.com/finance/undergraduate-tuition-fees-and-student-loans</p>
Influencers	One of the key messages of the film is about parental influence and peer influence. By using the characters' experiences rather than their own personal experience, we hope that students will be able to have a more open discussion around this important point.
More Info	We have more information about all of these topics on our website https://nextstepssw.ac.uk Please see WWY Lesson Plan for guidance of how to deliver this workshop.