

## EUGANGS Trainer Case Study – Keith Blackburn

Keith's work as a security guard at St George's Academy, an original EUGANGS partner organisation, means he has been involved in the project from its inception. It is not just experience and skills in conflict resolution which Keith has brought to the training, but also lessons from building relationships with young people which help them engage more positively as learners. Within the project Keith has:



- participated in the 90-hour VET programme pilot
- qualified as an expert trainer
- delivered VET training sessions on safe working and interpersonal communication
- marked and moderated assignments
- presented at the national EUGANGS event at Walsall College

### Example of delivery

Keith created a lesson on interpersonal communication based on research carried out by Action for Children, and summarised in the '[Keeping Myself Safe](#)' toolkit. Students watched the Flamo episode of the '[Interrupters](#)' series, to identify techniques mentors used to engage with gang members. They then reviewed the research by categorising its outcomes according to practitioner skills, qualities, and what young people say they want from adults. Students then compared this with what they had seen in the video. Finally, Keith related his own experience of mentoring a teenager at St George's. This then formed the basis for further discussion on appropriate approaches to relationship building.

Keith now works as a Teaching Assistant for Lawnswood Campus (Alternative Education Provider), where he supports young people with behavioural and special educational needs. He is also active in the community, supports Wolverhampton Citizens for Change, and assists as a volunteer for the local under 14s Sunday football league.

You can contact Keith at: [kbk784@googlemail.com](mailto:kbk784@googlemail.com)