

Male Interviewer 1: Last term you were part of Narnian Virtues, would you just like to tell us what it was like?

Male Respondent 1: It was pretty fun, they had some fun activities I guess, the teacher made it fun for us.

MI1: How did the teacher make it fun?

MR1: Because he was like, "Write this letter", he'd make it fun, make it yourself. I like how you can explain how you feel, but no one will really know, but I like it, so it's really fun.

Female Interviewer 2: By the way, you can be honest and say you didn't like it, we're not going to be deeply offended.

What sort of letters were you writing?

MR1: We wrote a letter once, I think it was Eustace.

Female respondent 1: Eustace.

MR1: To his parents, it was fun, it was a lot of fun.

But I hated the homework, never again.

FI: That's interesting, that's something that we're going to ask you about actually.

MI: So tell us some more about the homework?

MR1: I'm not going to lie, they ask you if, "Did it help you?", and I put, "Yes", but I really, I don't get how it helped. That's how I feel, no offence.

MI: None taken.

FI: Really none taken.

MI: When you said it asked, "Did it help you?", how do you think it was supposed to help you?

MR1: I think it was meant to, because it's talking about virtues and, "You should be this", and I think that's what they were trying to put across that, "You should change the way you think about things and process."

FR1: I feel like how it was worded, I didn't get it, I had to read it five times until I actually got the task, I'd be like, "Wait, so I'm supposed to do this, but before I have to do this", and it was a bit hard to follow in a way.

MI: So the instructions weren't in the right order to make it simple to follow, is that what you mean?



FR1: Yes, so it would tell you something and then it would say, "But before you do this, do this."

MI1: So are you saying the language wasn't quite right?

FR1: Yes, it was a bit.

MI1: And it was a while ago now, so it doesn't matter if you can't, but I don't suppose you can remember any of the activities in particular that were difficult to follow?

Female Respondent 2: Yes, it was, one of them and it was, I forgot what it was, but it was the quest one where it was like, "Rowing the boat" and the, I don't remember what it was called, but I just remember.

MR1: I think it was "My Voyage."

FR2: Yes, "My Voyage", that was it.

FI: One of the things that we're looking at as well is if we did something like this again, would be for us to know what we could do better, so that's good to hear your opinions.

MI: [Student name] you've a little quiet so far, how did you find Narnian Virtues?

Male Respondent 2: It was fun, but I didn't understand it.

MI: It was fun, but you didn't understand it?

R: [No response]

MI: Okay, lets deal with the first one first, what made it fun?

MR2: Because I didn't understand it.

MI: Okay, so the idea that it was, you couldn't understand it, is what, so if we want to help you have fun in the future, we need to give you things that aren't understandable?

All: [laughter]

MI: Excellent, so tell us a little bit more then about why didn't you understand it? Can you think of anything that could have been done to make it easier?

MR2: [No response]

MI: That's fine, what did you think of the homework?

MR2: The homework was fun, but it was hard.

Int: Hard because it was difficult to understand, or hard to actually do it, or both or neither?

MR1: There was one, I still only remember a bit, was it 50 or was it 100? No, it was 25 for each. The one where you had to learn about, I think it was 50, 50 different words.

FR2: That one.

MR1: No offence, but it's like you're learning 50 words, and then eventually you'll forget them the next day because there's so many you have to analyse.

FR1: It was overwhelming in a way.

MR2: Like 15 maybe.

FR1: I also wasn't the biggest fan of the bit where you did the parent things, because my mum was, I'd ask my mum and she went, "I've already done homework." I did like the idea of having your parents involved with it, but it might just be me but I'd have preferred just doing it on my own in my room with some music.

MI: That's a good point, thank you.

An honest answer, [student name] you said that you didn't ask your parents, or your parents didn't get involved with doing it, is that right?

MR1: No, they got involved in it, well my mum got involved in it, she would be like, "Well you need to improve on this", and I'm like "Okay, you need to improve on this", and she'd be like, "No", and it would go vice versa, and then that would cause an argument.

MI: I see.

MR1: "No, I don't think that", and it's like, "But you need to improve on this", and I'm like, "I already do that", and it was just like arguing.

FI: Did you have a similar experience with people at home?

MR2: Yes.

FI: Yes? Don't worry if you don't want to share, it's absolutely fine.

MI: Why do you think that the people who wrote it might have wanted you to do things at home? What do you think the purpose was?

MR1: Well not only are you socialising with your family, to staying in your room all night, it also helps you improve on your communication skills and getting things across without being brutally honest.



FR2: I also think it might be because, with the parts where it was the personal things, "Who do you look up to?", that one, I think it was also so that parents and children could also get to know each other.

MI: [Child's name – MR2], do you have any idea why people might have asked to have a homework book? No? That's fine. How well do you think it did that? If you think that the people who wrote it, do you think their aims were to get you out of your room, helping to improve communication? [FR2], what was the last thing you said, you said something slightly different didn't you?

FR2: To reconnect the children and their parents.

MI: Do you think it helped to do that or not?

FR2: I think it helped a little bit.

MR1: It helped a little bit, yes.

FR1: I'm already quite close to my parents, but I thought it did help a bit, giving us some time.

MI: Can you remember the kind of things that you talked about?

FR1: I remember, some of them were like.

MR1: One was about wishes.

FR1: Yes, your wishes, or who you admire, who you look up to, and then a lot, I found out a lot of things about my parents that I didn't know.

MI: Okay, without telling us anything that might be personal, can you think of anything that you found out that surprised you?

FR1: A few things surprised me, on how my mum wanted to do a completely different job than she already did, she was wanting to do, she was wanting to go into English, and then she didn't, she ended up going into art.

FI: That's very interesting.

MI: We've talked quite a bit about the character passport, the homework stuff, we didn't spend so long on what you were doing in the classroom, do you have anything that you want to share about how, you said it was fun, the teacher made it fun?

FR1: I liked it because with things like doing the tasks in the middle, it kind of made me remember a bit more than when we just read the book, because in Year 7 we just read the book and then we just do some regular English work, but with this you'd read the book and then you'd do work on the book instead of just other English work.



FI: So you found it quite different from The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe?

FR1: Yes, you're more engaged, and it was as if you were actually doing work with it instead of just reading.

FI: We were talking to some students recently at a different school, and somebody said that they felt a bit vulnerable when they were sharing their experience in the classroom, did anyone feel that?

FR1: A bit, yes.

MR1: I got it once in one story, what was it, you had to write things that make you feel down, and there was only one thing that always came to mind, and I was like, "Do I write it down or not?", I didn't want to make it up because then I'm telling random people something that isn't true, so I just put it down, and thought "no-one's seeing this" and then I closed the book, that's the end of that one, that's the only thing that made me feel a bit vulnerable.

FR2: Whenever I felt vulnerable, I just make it the most blandest detail thing ever, because it could be opened up to anything.

MI: You guys have been great, thank you very much.

Fortunately there are people behind you, we're very sad to see you go, but we are very happy to see these guys come, so thank you so much.

[CLOSE]

