

'I want to get off the boat'

How to engage the disengaged!



SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE TRUST



Engaging young people starts before the voyage begins

- code of conduct agreement signed by trainee
- information states requirements and what to expect
- outcomes of the voyage



Voyage framing sets expectations



Voyage framing

- non negotiable
(smoking, alcohol, drugs)
- violence
(physical, verbal or emotional)
- family rules
(particular relationships)



Voyage framing

- one strike policy
- not school but a ship
- rules apply to staff and trainees alike
- self discipline basis of group discipline
- are you still coming with us?



Getting everyone on the same halyard



Great food always helps



Wide range of abilities in students

- those who participate fully
- those who seem unmotivated and unwilling
- those who will seriously interfere with the voyage
- those who will seriously interfere with others



Intervention - interview the trainee

- in a quiet place, away from distractions
- allow them to tell their story
- are they disengaged, sea sick or homesick?
- are they anti-social or quiet, withdrawn
- involve staff to canvass opinions



Helpful strategies

- work alongside and praise
- flatten your voice and encourage
- reduce eye contact in conflict
- always say what you want to happen
- support your colleagues

