

Minimising exclusions

Andy's backstory

Andy is 15 and doesn't live in a great neighbourhood. He's been beaten up a few times on his way home, but he doesn't tell his mum and dad anymore.

His dad punched him the last time he said anything, for not standing up for himself, for not being tough enough. Andy's dad has a habit of taking out his bad moods on him... and Andy's mum.

He doesn't feel safe at home and tries to keep out of the way. He's ended up hanging out with a crowd of older kids, drinking and smoking.

They're a tough crowd, so Andy has to act tough to fit in.

If he is at home, he stays in his bedroom, playing X-box games all night. Gaming is an escape - it stops him from thinking too much.

He thinks school is pretty much a waste of time. His dad says he's too stupid to achieve anything anyway.

Andy's starting to believe this. His mum and dad don't care what happens at school, so why should he bother trying?

Causing trouble at school has become the norm. Although school is a drag, Andy feels safe there - even if he spends most of his time in boring detentions.

Stressed out

Anxious

Not sleeping

Dreading going home

Andy's bad behaviour is pretty low-level, but his time is wasted at school in detentions.

No-one at school has bothered to find out what is going on in his life.

Angry

Lonely

No support

What next for Andy?