

SUPPORTING SOUTHWARK SCHOOLS

LAUNCH OF THE EQUALITEACH PORTAL

Ben Taylor

Southwark Prevent

Jennifer Johnson

Equaliteach

SCHOOLS SAFEGUARDING FORUM

Friday 2nd February 2024

OUR SUPPORT FOR SOUTHWARK SCHOOLS

- **Southwark Prevent team programme of delivery for education since 2017**
- **More than 280 training sessions delivered in education settings – 9,100 teachers and school-leaders reached across the borough**
- **Positive projects delivered in 87 different schools and colleges overall**
- **More than 630 individual sessions/workshops/events have supported 19,000 to build resilience and promote protective behaviours**
- **Key takeaway from schools engagement and project feedback/evaluation is need for in-school support and resources for tackling difficult topics + conversations with young people**

OUR SUPPORT FOR SOUTHWARK SCHOOLS

- **Equaliteach a close partner since 2017 – have delivered workshops in 20+ different Southwark schools since 2017, reaching more than 6,000 young people**
- **Evaluation of delivery showed increase confidence of teachers/schools in addressing issues around discrimination, stereotypes, propaganda, misinformation**
- **Annual evaluations showed consistent positive reviews from young people and participating schools to Equaliteach resources and messaging**
- **Funding cuts (all funding from central government withdrawn as of April 2024) has significantly reduced capacity for support to education sector in this area**
- **To provide multi-year support at time of funding cuts, Southwark has commissioned bespoke package of support for its schools**

Southwark Portal for Schools

Jennifer Johnson (she/her)

Ben Taylor

@equaliteach

About us

EqualiTeach is a not-for profit equality and diversity training and consultancy organisation.

We provide:

- CPD and INSET equality training for staff
- Interactive workshops with young people
- Production and updating of policies, strategies and guidance documents
- Production of training and educational resources



Southwark Portal for Schools

Today we will talk you through:

- What the portal is and how schools can use it
- How the Southwark Portal can support your school to fulfill their duties, including Prevent, the Public Sector Equality Duty and FBV
- How to easily access the portal



Southwark Portal for Schools



Southwark Council is working in partnership with EqualiTeach to provide educators across the borough with free access to tools and support for working with young people on controversial issues.

This portal provides access to a range of resources, tools and e-learning for those working with young people in a variety of settings.

Resources and E-Learning

- E-learning Course
- Primary and Secondary
- 1-1.5 hours
- Can save progress as go
- Access resources



Working with young people on controversial issues

These e-learning courses have been designed to support educators to be equipped with tools and confidence to open conversations with young people on controversial issues.

▼ Course aims

The content is very similar across the two courses, so select the age group you work with. For those working in all-through settings, you'll find the underlying principals the same, so can complete either course.

These courses have been designed with educators in mind, however those who work with young people outside of the school setting are welcome to complete a course to complement their own EDI practice.

[Primary course](#) →

[Secondary course](#) →



What are Controversial Issues?



Slides



7. What are Controversial Issues?



8. Module Aims



9. What are Controversial Issues?



10. "I'm worried about opening a can of worms!"



11. What influences young people in Southwark?

E-Learning Course

During the course participants will:

- Explore why it is important to have conversations about controversial issues with young people.
- Understand the statutory duties on schools with regards to this work, including the Public Sector Equality Duty, the Prevent duty and the duty to promote Fundamental British Values.
- Be equipped with tools and techniques to conduct effective conversations on controversial issues.
- Explore how to effectively challenge prejudice and stereotypes to create positive change.
- Be equipped with activities and approaches to help young people to recognise misinformation and reject prejudice and hate.

Resources and E-Learning

- Mixture of short courses, quizzes and activities
- Designed to provide a foundation of EDI knowledge
- Suitable for different age groups and needs



EDI resources for those working with young people

These resources have been created and collated to provide a foundation of equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) knowledge for those working with young people either 1:1 or in groups, particularly in non-school contexts.

The resources include e-learning modules on EDI topics, as well as handouts, tools and activities that can be used to engage with young people on these topics.

This section of the portal has been designed for those working outside of a classroom or school environment, however, those working in schools are welcome to browse the resources for any tools or guidance which may build on their own approach to EDI.

[Access resources](#) →

Southwark EDI Resources for Working with Young People

Here you can find access to resources that will enable you to begin conversations with young people about equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI).

Need to Know

In this section you will find information about important legislation pertaining to EDI, as well as quick guides to different aspects of identity and appropriate language to use when discussing equality topics.

[Access resources](#) →

Starting a Conversation

In this section you will learn more about how to approach sensitive topics with young people, including how to set up a safe space, and how to engage parents and carers.

[Access resources](#) →

Working with Young People

In this section you will find a range of simple activities, worksheets and posters that can be used with young people to encourage conversations around EDI, as well as links to further resources.

[Access resources](#) →

[Return to Southwark Portal](#) →



Workshops for Pupils

- Critical thinking
- Think! approx. 1.5hrs
- Second Thoughts approx. 3 x 1 hr
- All videos and resources provided, including e-worksheets



Think! and Second Thoughts! workshops for pupils

These pre-recorded workshops are designed to develop young peoples' critical thinking skills through interactive activities and discussions, building pupil's confidence, resilience and ability to fact check information.

Workshops explore stereotypes, how opinions are formed, and how information can be biased or misleading, providing tools for identifying accurate information.

The workshops have been developed and adapted into pre-recorded sessions which educators can present to their students, fitting around their existing curriculum and timetable.

Workshops are tailored to primary or secondary students, and come with supporting guidance.

[Think! for primary pupils \(KS2\) →](#)

[Second Thoughts for secondary pupils \(KS3-4\) →](#)

Workshops for Pupils with Special Educational Needs

- 10 short videos
- Mix and Match
- Primary/Secondary
- All videos and resources provided, including e-worksheets



Critical thinking activities for pupils with special educational needs

This selection of activities has been designed to deliver the aims and outcomes of our Think! and Second Thoughts! workshops, broken down into shorter activities, tailored for pupils with special educational needs.

Each activity is in the form of a pre-recorded video that can be played in your usual classroom settings. You'll find information with each activity including the length, what skills are required (such as reading or writing), what the activity will cover and an idea of who it is suitable for.

Activities can be completed individually, but are also designed to follow on from each other into a longer programme of work.

Supporting guidance for teachers is also available.

[Access SEN activities](#) →

Today's Learning journey



Considering our opinions about different types of people



Understanding the impact of stereotypes and assumptions

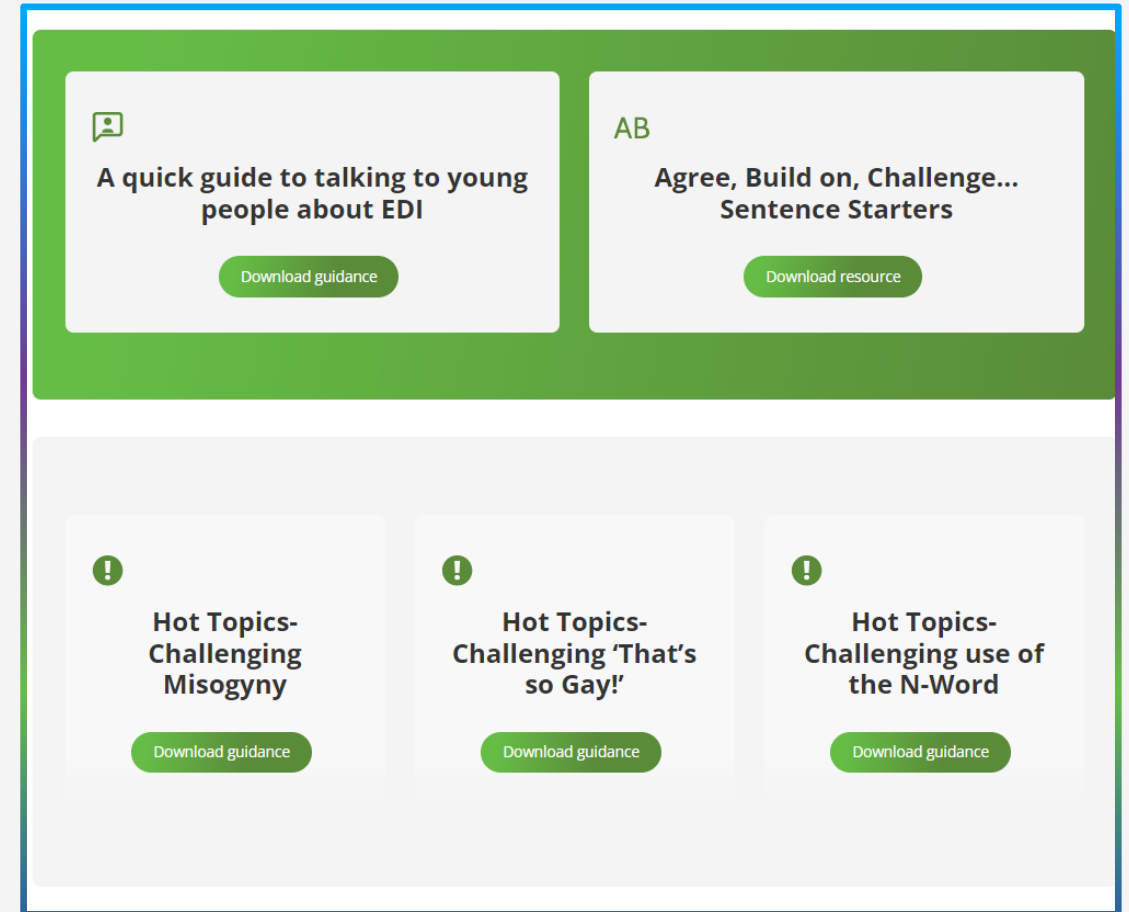


Identifying where we get information from and beginning to think critically about our sources



Southwark Portal for Parents and Carers

- Mixture of short courses, quizzes and activities
- Assist parents, carers and community leaders engage with young people on issues of identity
- Separate link



Supporting Schools to fulfil their duties

Legislation

Equality Act 2010

Community Cohesion

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

Prevent

SMSC

Prevent

Prevent is part of the government's counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST. The stated aim of Prevent is to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

CONTEST was first introduced in 2003, but Prevent was not a statutory duty for schools until 2015. In July 2015 the Counter Terrorism and Security Act imposed a duty on schools to demonstrate "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism."

To perform this duty well, it is important that schools are places where pupils can discuss their concerns about the world around them, develop critical thinking and learn to reject stereotypical and harmful narratives.

"Schools should be safe spaces in which children and young people can understand and discuss sensitive topics" Home Office, 2015.

Supporting Schools to fulfil their duties

Legislation

Equality Act 2010

Community Cohesion

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

Prevent

SMSC

Spiritual: the ability to be reflective about their own beliefs, religious or otherwise, that inform their perspective on life and their interest in and respect for different people's faiths, feelings and values.

Moral: the ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong and to readily apply this understanding in their own lives, recognise legal boundaries and, in so doing, respect the civil and criminal law of England.

Social: the use of a range of social skills in different contexts, for example working and socialising with other pupils, including those from different religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds

Cultural: an understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and those of others.

Supporting Schools to fulfil their duties

Legislation

Equality Act 2010

Community Cohesion

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

Prevent

SMSC

Equality Act 2010

To understand a schools' duties in regard to equality it is important to look at the Equality Act 2010. Within the Act exists the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Under the Public Sector Equality Duty, all public sector schools are required to show due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Signing Up!

Southwark Portal for Schools

<https://empowered.equaliteach.co.uk/register/southwark-portal/>

Southwark Portal for Parents and Carers

<https://empowered.equaliteach.co.uk/register/southwark-parent-carer-portal/>

enquiries@equaliteach.co.uk

OUR SUPPORT FOR SOUTHWARK SCHOOLS

- **FREE, UNLIMITED ACCESS TO RESOURCES THROUGH PORTAL UNTIL OCTOBER 2025, EXCLUSIVELY FOR SOUTHWARK SCHOOLS**
- **EASY SIGN-UP FOR SCHOOLS – AND UNLIMITED ACCESS TO ENABLE SCHOOLS TO MAKE THE MOST OF SUPPORT VIA STAFF USE**

- **SIGN-UP SHEET ON EACH TABLE – PLEASE LEAVE YOUR DETAILS TO GET ACCESS TO THE PLATFORM FOLLOWING TODAY'S EVENT**
- **TAILORED LINK AND RESOURCES FOR PARENTS & CARERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR SCHOOLS TO USE AS THEY PLEASE – TEMPLATE LETTER/MESSAGING WILL BE SENT OUT TO PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS**

ANY QUESTIONS?
