

Diversity and Inclusion

Diversity and Inclusion provides opportunities to consider the range and extent of diversity in societies locally and globally and to identify the challenges and opportunities which diversity and inclusion present in local, national, European and Global contexts.

Young people should have opportunities to:

Investigate factors including religious and political, that influence individual and group identity

For example, age, gender, youth culture, ethnicity, community background

Investigate ways in which individuals and groups express their identity *for example, dress code, language, musical and sporting traditions, religious and political opinions/beliefs*

Investigate how and why conflict, including prejudice/stereotyping/sectarianism/racism may arise in the community *for example, inclusive classroom environment, negotiation/mediation based on human rights values*

Investigate the opportunities we have because of diversity and multiculturalism and ways of promoting inclusion in the community *for example shared festivals and sporting events*

Human Rights and Social Responsibility

Exploring Human Rights and Social responsibilities provides opportunities to understand that a globally accepted values base exists that reflects the rights, (as outlined within various international human rights instruments), and responsibilities of individuals and groups in democratic society

Young people should have opportunities to:

Investigate why it is important to uphold human rights standards in modern democratic societies, including meeting basic needs, protecting individuals and groups of people;

Investigate key human rights principles as outlined in e.g. the UDHR, ECHR and UNCRC as a value base

Investigate why different rights must be balanced in our society *g/sectarianism/racism, may arise in the community due to expressions of diversity and ways of managing conflict and promoting inclusion in the community for example, individual rights v group rights; freedom of expression, movement, mode of protest etc.*

Investigate global scenarios where human rights have been seriously infringed *for example, child labour; prisoners of conscience; instances where the actions of the State have been questioned and challenged etc*

Investigate some social, civic and state responsibilities and why governments need to provide these services for their people, *for example, the provision of education, health carer, hospitals, housing, pensions, policing etc.*

Recognise the role of human rights standards, in local and global contexts, in promoting democratic principles, equality and social justice and in addressing issues relating to diversity and inclusion

Equality and Social Justice

Exploring Equality and Social Justice provides opportunities to understand that society needs to safeguard individual and collective rights in order to ensure that everyone is treated equally and fairly.

Young people should have opportunities to:

Explore how inequalities can arise in society

Investigate how and why some people may experience inequality/discrimination on the basis of their group identity

for example, people with disabilities, younger people, older people, people from different ethnic backgrounds including the travelling community etc.

Investigate how and why some people may experience inequality/social exclusion on the basis of their material circumstances in local and global contexts, *for example, absolute and relative poverty, homelessness, the experience of refugees and asylum seekers etc.*

Explore the work of inter-governmental, governmental and non- governmental organisations which aim to promote equality and social justice *for example the work of the United Nations, the Equality Commission for N. Ireland, local and global development agencies*

Democracy and Active Participation

Exploring Democracy and Active Participation provides opportunities for young people to understand how to participate in and to influence democratic processes and to be aware of some key democratic institutions and their role in promoting inclusion, justice and democracy.

Young people should have opportunities to:

Investigate the basic characteristics of democracy *for example, participation, the rule of law, promotion of equality and human rights*

Investigate various ways to participate in school/society *for example school councils, peer mediation, mock elections, volunteering, community action/involvement, lobbying and campaigning through NGOs, local councillors, MLA or MEP*

Investigate why rules and laws are needed, how they are enforced and how breaches of the law affect the community *for example school rules, classroom charter, age related law*

Investigate an issue from a range of viewpoints and suggest action that might be taken to improve or resolve the situation, in a local or global context *for example, how to improve local youth services, enhance an existing play area, design a community garden, drop in centre or multi-cultural mural/event, environmental activities, involvement in campaigns on global issues such as: child soldiers, Education for all, Fair Trade, Poverty etc.*