

Title of Report: Anti-Racism Education Workshops – Request for Funding

Purpose of the Report

To request funding from Schools Forum to enable Show Racism the Red Card to provide anti-racism education workshops across schools in Gateshead, in order to encourage a more cohesive and inclusive society.

Background

Show Racism the Red Card (SRtRC) is an anti-racism education charity which was established in the North East in 1996. The charity is governed by a management committee of 11, has 25 employees nationally.

The education team work in communities, workplaces, schools and other institutions delivering anti-racism workshops to young people and training to adults. We have strong partnerships with Local Authorities, Trade Unions and community organisations in the region.

They often use high-profile ex-professional footballers and other role models to talk about their experiences of racism and to express their solidarity with the aims of the campaign. SRtRC standard model of delivery includes Education Workers developing and delivering the session based on the needs of the group and the issues expressed.

They pride themselves as an organisation on building as safe an environment as possible to allow participants to feel free to express their ideas and frustrations without fear of judgement, labelling or punishment. There is however a clear expectation that ideas will be subject to challenge and participants will be exposed to alternative ways of looking at situations and communities.

Over the last 12 months, the North East Education team has worked with 11,844 participants with over 11,500 of those being young people aged 7-18 in schools and colleges in the region.

Anti-Racism Education for Schools in Gateshead:

Young people across Gateshead's primary, secondary and special schools would receive anti-racism education. This would include the delivery of anti-racism and myth busting workshops which are classroom based (a minimum of 2 hours), alongside fun and fitness sessions which relate to themes of inequality and team building, delivered by an ex-professional footballer to young people from year 4 upwards.

Alongside the workshop participants will be provided with anti-racism resources including an anti-racism magazine, action postcards, football team posters of their choice featuring Gateshead Council's logo and handouts explaining terminology and how to challenge racism.

Outputs: 18 Primary Schools, 2 Secondary Schools, 2 Special Schools.
(Weighting of primary vs. Secondary schools could vary dependant on take up e.g. there may be 3 high schools which request us to work with them, this would then reduce the number of primary schools)

Outcomes

By the end of our workshops young people will have:

- A better understanding of what racism is and how it impacts on individuals (targets & perpetrators) and society
- An increased awareness of the responsibility to challenge racism & how this can be done
- An increased awareness of critical thinking and its usefulness in challenging stereotypes and recognising media bias
- More knowledge about appropriate/inappropriate terminology relating to ethnicity

Each session will highlight the following racisms- Anti-Immigrant sentiment, Anti-Muslim prejudice, Anti-Gypsyism (and racism toward Roma and traveller people) and racism toward Black and other minority communities.

The team at SRtRC are responsive to the prejudice ideas and attitudes that arise in their sessions and therefore the degree to which each of the aforementioned racisms are discussed will vary.

Twilight Teacher Training

Alongside anti-racism education for young people, the schools in Gateshead will be offered twilight teacher training sessions. These take place at the end of the school day where education has been delivered to young people. The sessions typically will last 1 ½ to 2 hours (we could offer more time, however CPD schedules and teacher working hours restrict the time we have to deliver).

By the end of our twilight teacher training session participants will:

- Understand the need to critically reflect on their personal prejudices and professional practice
- Have an increased understanding of how to recognise racism
- Will be better equipped to respond to racist incidents

Responsiveness

Whilst the above is an outline of the broad outputs and a description of content that could be covered if funding was provided by Gateshead Schools Forum SRtRC

understand that the climate in schools can change and we strive to be responsive to that.

Changes to legislation and with the unfolding of national and international events, what is delivered may differ slightly from what is described in this document. That being said SRtRC are still firmly committed to their organisational aim of being an anti-racism education charity but at the same time they are willing to be flexible to the needs of schools and communities. For example the Prevent agenda is already having an impact in schools and if necessary we can work to support schools to fulfil their duty.

SRtRC team currently sit on the Hate Crime Tension Monitoring Group at Gateshead Council. Because of this they are able to pick up on issues of tension in communities and would be able to be responsive to this in contacting schools to offer our services should any school be in particular need of support.

Cost: £ 11,083

Anti-Racism Teacher Training Conferences for Gateshead Staff:

Show Racism the Red Card also deliver full day CPD programmes for teachers and school staff.

The one day conference will bring together frontline workers that have a role working with young people. The conference will include the delivery of the following workshops:

- Recognising and responding to racist incidents
- Clearing up the confusion on terminology relating to ethnicity
- Understanding how to make schools more equal
- Dismantling the myths relating to equality and anti-racism
- Legislation and the prevent duty

The delegates will also be asked to reflect on what change they will make to their practice following the course.

Outcomes:

By the end of our adult workshops adults will:

- Understand the need to critically reflect on their personal prejudices and professional practice
- Have a greater understanding of appropriate terminology relating to ethnicity.
- Have an increased understanding of how to recognise racism.
- Be better equipped to respond to racist incidents.
- Be more aware of the need for a culturally affirming curriculum/school ethos for all pupils

- Understand their legislative duties in relation to Equalities
- Will be more aware for the need for anti-racist practice

Cost: £3,800 *This price is per conference. The conference can be delivered to up to 60 teachers and schools staff per conference.*

Proposal

That Gateshead Schools Forum provides a total of £14,883 in funding to provide anti-racism education in schools and an anti-racism teacher training conference.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Schools Forum consider the funding request from Show Racism the Red Card and be minded to support the proposals as outlined above.

For the following reason:

To ensure children and young people across Gateshead feel safe and supported, and are part of a confident and diverse growing population.

Contact: Steve Horne