CHAMPIONING BELONGING

Young Voices Against Hate

Creative Competition Resource Guide

funded by

Sovereign Network Group

Introduction

In Basingstoke and Deane we want to ensure that everyone knows how to recognise and report hate crime and values diversity.

The aim of running a competition is to:

- Raise awareness of hate crime amongst our young people helping them understand its impact and how to stand against it.

- Celebrate the diversity of our community, highlighting the beauty and strength found in our differences.

- Demonstrate the power of unity, showing how much stronger we are when we support each other and work together.

A hate crime is "any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim, or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on a person's actual or perceived race, religion/faith, sexual orientation, disability and gender identity".

Being a victim of hate crime can leave a person feeling fearful, isolated and vulnerable. It can also severely undermine their sense of safety in their school college and/or community. It impacts greatly on self-confidence and self-worth and can lead to
depression, anxiety and, in extreme cases, suicide.

Anyone can be affected, from famous celebrities to you, a friend or a relative. The affect does not just impact the individual but also their family and friends.

Together we can stop this. By running a competition and involving young people we can celebrate our diversity and make real change.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Basingstoke Voluntary Action in association with Basingstoke Hate Crime Awareness Group (BHCAG).

About this guide

This guide is designed to be flexible and adaptable to your setting - whether you're working in a school, youth group, community organisation, hospital or shopping centre. Use it to spark creativity, encourage dialogue, and inspire action.

When to run the competition

National Hate Crime Awareness Week runs annually in October but you do not need to run your competition then. You could be covering Hate Crime awareness already as part of your curriculum or programme, or you may want to link the competition into other events you are holding e.g. Anti Bullying Week or National Inclusion Week.

What type of competition

The type of competition will depend on the age of the young people and whether you are linking it into a specific part of your curriculum, school life or youth work. It should always be inclusive and accessible to your students.

Examples of types are:

- Written – Poetry, short story, report
- Creative – video, short sketch or one act play, photography, dance
- Art – poster, comic strip
- You could choose Creative Arts so that it encompasses every medium however, this can be difficult to judge.

Be clear on the criteria of the type of competition e.g. We are looking for :

- Short written pieces (under 900 words) of fiction or non-fiction,
- Poems (under 600 words and under 45 lines long),
- Artwork of any medium, as long as it can be reproduced as a single image within a printed page or
- Short films of 3 minutes length.

Theme of competition

As described in the introduction, the underlying themes of the competition are to raise awareness of hate crime amongst our young people, celebrate the diversity of our community and to demonstrate our strength when people work together and support each other.

The competition therefore can take different formats depending on the age of the young person involved and your imagination.

For younger people the competition could be through the use of a single word or a scenario.

Examples include:

- Words: Kindness, Respect, Unity, Friendliness, Welcoming, Tolerance, Stronger Together, Celebrate Diversity,
- Scenarios: Stranger in a new world, How would you feel?, Safe Strong and Equal, We All Belong, Helping someone who is different

Older participants may be encouraged to take part with more complex and individual interpretations that they can relate to their own lives and experiences.

The competition could be to create a piece of work to inspire and educate about the issues facing people who suffer hate crime and discrimination.

Examples include:

- impact of hate crime
- discrimination
- experiencing hate crime
- reporting hate crime
- accessing support

Age groups

The competition was originally set up to accommodate 2 age ranges; 8 to 12 years and 13 to 16 years old however, can be adapted to suit younger and older participants, as well as specific needs.

Suggested formats by age group

Ages 5–8: "Kindness in Action"

- Art competition: Draw or paint a picture showing kindness, friendship, or helping someone who is different.
- Story time: Submit a short story or comic strip about standing up for a friend.

Ages 9–12: "We All Belong"

- Poster design: Create a poster that celebrates diversity and inclusion.
- Poetry or short story: Write about a world where everyone is accepted for who they are.
- Group project: Create a class mural or collage on the theme of unity.

Ages 13–16: "Voices for Change"

- Spoken word or rap: Perform a piece about hate crime, identity, or standing up for others.
- Short film or animation: Create a video that raises awareness of hate crime and
- promotes solidarity.
- Campaign idea: Design a social media or school campaign to educate others.

Ages 17-25: "Lead the Change"

- Essay or opinion piece: Explore the causes and consequences of hate crime and how young people can make a difference.
- Digital media: Create a podcast episode, infographic, or interactive presentation.
- Community project: Propose or document a real-life initiative that promotes inclusion and challenges hate.

The competition could allow for both individual entries and group entries.
If you think of another option please contact the competition organiser.

Judging

As the competition is for young people consider involving your young people in the judging of the entries. Maybe you have a Youth Panel or representatives or maybe a mix of young people and adults works best for you. Whatever you decide the judging should be inclusive and based on the merit of the piece so we would recommend that the items are shown to the judges without any information on who has created the work. You may want to categorise them by age.

Prizes

Everyone loves to win a prize!

Included with this pack is a certificate template that can be used.

Permissions

To participate in a competition you may need to obtain permission from their parents or guardians.

You may also need permission if you wish to take photographs.

Basingstoke Hate Crime Awareness Group (BHCAG)

If you do decide to run a competition we would love to hear from you. We would be particularly interested in displaying your entries as part of
National Hate Crime Week.
The overall aims of BHCAG are:

- To raise awareness of hate crime and hate incidents.
- To increase confidence amongst victims to report hate crimes or hate incidents.
- To Increase reporting of hate crime.
- To work with young people to educate and challenge attitudes and prejudices.

Members include:

- Access4All,
- Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council,
- Basingstoke and District Disability Forum (BDDF),
- Basingstoke Multi-Cultural Forum (BMF),
- Basingstoke Unites Against Racism (BUAR)
- Basingstoke Voluntary Action (BVA),
- Citizens Advice Basingstoke,
- Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary,
- Kikoi Connections,
- Victim Support,
- No Limits

External Resources

Click on the links below for helpful webpages and resources:

- Stop Hate UK
- Basingstoke Hate Crime Awareness Group (BHCAG)
- Our colleagues at Spectrum in Southampton
- The Crown Prosecution Service
- Report It
- Police UK
- Fearless

Examples of previous winners

2022 - Unity and/or Respect

8-12 years category
Winner: Navilan

12-16 years category
Winner: Ambara

Examples of previous winners

2023 - Respectful and Welcoming

8-12 years category - Winner: Aoife

'Everybody Is Welcome'

Here on this Earth, everybody is welcome.
If you are Muslim, Sikh, Buddhist or Christian,
Bi, straight, gay or lesbian,
It doesn't matter who you are,
Because on this Earth, everybody is welcome.

Here on this Earth, everybody should be respected.
Whether your pronouns are he, she, they or them.
Everybody shall be respected and not condemned.
It doesn't matter who you are,
Because on this Earth, everybody is welcome.

Here on this Earth, nobody is the same,
And that is something we all should proclaim.
We are not the same, we are all different
That is what makes us all so magnificent.
It doesn't matter who you are,
Because on this Earth, everybody is welcome.

So, in conclusion, we all are unique
Our faces, our hair and our wonderful physiques
In order for us and our planet to grow,
Respect and love, we all must show.
Because on this Earth, everybody is welcome.

8-12 years category - Winner: Matteo

'Love Not Hate' Video

Video Entry Link: https://youtu.be/Gl41cLTtGis
Video Transcript: Video Transcript

AWARD FOR PARTICIPATION

This certificate is proudly awarded to:

_____

In recognition of your entry in the

_____

_____ _____

Awarded by Date