

Equalities Newsletter 2020-21 Term 3

This termly update is intended as a brief summary of current initiatives and opportunities to support Equalities that may be of interest to you and your staff team. Please get in touch with marilyn.brennan@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk if you would like any further information.

ERC News

- The next Equalities Coordinators Network meeting will be on **25 May at 1.30pm**. A parent Equalities Forum is scheduled for 13 May at 7pm and a link to the meeting has been emailed to parent chairs.
- A practice-sharing meeting for Equalities Coordinators and PIE Coordinators has been scheduled for **8 June at 3.30pm**. This is an opportunity for lead staff to share experiences of setting up parent equality and diversity groups and/or discuss plans for next session, with colleagues undertaking similar work. An email invitation to this optional meeting will be shared with Equalities Coordinators and PIE Coordinators soon.
- A further engagement session for teachers and CDOs from black, Asian and other minority ethnic groups has been scheduled for **16 June at 3.30pm**. We will be seeking views on the department's Anti-Racism CLPL offer for 2021-22.

Education Scotland

- **Incorporation Bill Professional Learning:** Scottish Government-funded professional learning on the UNCRC Incorporation Bill is running on 19th and 26th May and can be booked [here](#). Participants will examine ways to support learning through rights across the Scottish curriculum, within practical classroom learning and whole school initiatives.
- **BAME Big Blether:** Education Scotland is hosting a [Big Blether](#) on 18 May aimed at educators from black, Asian and minority ethnic groups across the Scottish education system.

GTCS

- GTCS have launched a new award, the Saroj Lal Award for a Pioneering Spirit in Equality and Diversity. The award is for teachers who have gone above and beyond in their efforts to promote a culture and ethos of equality and diversity. Head teachers are invited to nominate staff by 1st June. Further details, including a nomination form, are available [here](#).
- A report on implementation of the recommendations of *Teaching in a Diverse Scotland* has been published [here](#). The report outlines progress made since the 2018 report and work still to be undertaken to achieve a teaching profession which reflects the diversity of Scotland's population.
- Vision Schools Scotland have developed a new online resource for Holocaust Education. The resource tells the story of Holocaust survivor, Marianne Grant. The resource is hosted on the GTCS website [here](#) and is available to all secondary teachers by logging in to MyGTCS and accessing Resources in MyPL.

Anti-Racism

- An online practice-sharing network has been established by Nuzhat Uthmani, creator of the Global Citizenship Education website and blog. The network aims to bring together teachers from across Scotland who are passionate about embedding values of equality, diversity and fairness into their day to day practice. The first event is scheduled for 20 May at 4.15pm. Further information on the aims of the network is available [here](#). To join the network and access the first event, email gceducationscot@gmail.com.
- The Stephen Lawrence Day Foundation have created a range of anti-racism resources for schools, including suggested activities to promote fairness, tolerance and respect: [SLDF – Primary School Resource Pack](#) [SLDF – Secondary School Resource Pack](#)

Anti-Poverty

- CPAG have published a report on the impact of the second lockdown on families living with poverty. '[The Cost of Learning in Lockdown - March 2021 Update](#)' offers useful insights into financial challenges resulting from the January-March 2021 school closures.
- A recording of Education Scotland's recent webinar '*Data and the Poverty Related Attainment Gap*', aimed at teaching staff, is available [here](#).

Gender Equal Play

- ADES has established a working group to promote Gender Equal Play in Early Learning and Childcare. The following links have been shared by ADES for the attention of Early Years practitioners:

[Care Inspectorate/Zero Tolerance resources for gender equal play](#)
[Education Scotland information on domestic abuse for educators, updated January 2021](#)

Stonewall Scotland

- Stonewall Scotland has launched its second e-learning module, 'Supporting LGBT Children and Young People'. East Renfrewshire schools can access a discount on e-learning modules. Contact marilyn.brennan@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk for further information.
- East Renfrewshire continues to be a Stonewall Scotland Champions member. If you require more specific advice on supporting LGBT children or young people in your school please get in touch and we can link you directly with an adviser at Stonewall.

Scottish Council of Jewish Communities

- SCOJEChave created a short series of videos titled "[5 Minute Judaism](#)" which teach about Jewish days of worship. Volunteer SCoJeC Ambassadors are also available to do virtual presentations to classes. To make a booking enquiry, contact SCoJeC [here](#).