



Resources to Support Educators with Conversations about Racism

August 2024

The [Building Racial Literacy programme](#) (BRL) is run by Education Scotland and is part of the Scottish Government's [Anti-Racism in Education programme](#). We support proactive conversations about racism rooted in empathy, listening, kindness and productive discomfort. You can see our [principles for safer, braver learning spaces](#) for more details. Educators who use these principles have found them very supportive in different settings.

BRL has been running since 2021 but recognises that, with recent news of riots, educators may be looking for more support with discussing racism and islamophobia with learners. We hope that some of the resources suggested below are helpful.

With young people being more exposed to news events through social media than ever before, many may be experiencing distress and anxiety. Some also may, sadly, be experiencing increased overt racism in public. Carefully managed, these discussions will provide safer spaces for all learners within their learning communities moving forward.

Team BRL is keen to support educators and build on all the solidarity with Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic citizens that we've seen recently. If you have any suggestions, questions, or concerns; please get in touch with us at edsbrl@educationscotland.gov.scot.

Education Scotland's website, [Promoting Anti-Racist Education in Scotland](#), includes a wide range of support materials for educators, in line with progress from the Scottish Government's Anti-Racism in Education Programme. These include:

- Guidance on how to respond to racist incidents ([Responding to Racist Incidents – Promoting Anti-Racist Education in Scotland \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](#))
- Support for embedding anti-racism in the curriculum, including examples of activities for English & Literacy, Maths & Numeracy and Health & Wellbeing ([Curriculum Areas – Promoting Anti-Racist Education in Scotland \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](#))

- Support materials and case studies for Scotland's Breaking the Mould Principles for an Anti-Racist Curriculum ([Breaking the mould: Principles for an anti-racist curriculum | Resources | Education Scotland](#))
- Links to materials supporting Diversity in the Education Workforce ([Diversity in the Teaching Profession and Education Workforce – Promoting Anti-Racist Education in Scotland \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](#))
- A section on professional and leadership, including a breakdown on the importance of anti-racist education ([What do we mean by anti-racist education? – Promoting Anti-Racist Education in Scotland \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](#))

General Anti-Racism in Education Resources

- [Promoting Anti-Racist Education in Scotland \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](#)
- [A' Adam's Bairns? – Scotdec](#)
- [Anti-racist toolkit for teachers – Scotdec](#)
- [140 Ideas for Embedding Antiracism Across Every Primary Stage](#)
- [TT Difficult Conversations web.pdf \(learningforjustice.org\)](#)
- [Glossary | The Anti-Racist Educator \(theantiracisteducator.com\)](#)
- [Breaking the mould: Principles for an anti-racist curriculum | Resources | Education Scotland](#)

Dealing with Racism Online

- [Dealing with online racism - Own It - BBC](#)
- [Fake news, hoaxes and misinformation | NSPCC](#)
- [Racist and faith targeted bullying: Top tips for schools \(anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk\)](#)

Responding to News of Racism

- [What is Islamophobia? | Newsround \(youtube.com\)](#)
- [How do you talk to kids about the riots? We spoke to a psychologist and a teacher | GoodtoKnow](#)
- [Guidance on racial slurs in the classroom – Promoting Anti-Racist Education in Scotland \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](#)
- [White Allies](#)
- [Black Lives Matter: What is systemic racism? Kids' questions answered - BBC News \(youtube.com\)](#)
- [Challenging Anti-Muslim Prejudice - Equality: Anti-Racism \(eis.org.uk\)](#)

Young Learners

- [We Are All Special: Newark Primary Against Racism \(youtube.com\)](#)
- [A Kids Book About Racism by Jelani Memory \(youtube.com\)](#)

- [KS1 PSHE Resource Pack: My Skin, Your Skin | Teaching Resources \(tes.com\)](#)

Self-care and Community/Family Support

- [Racism & Mental Health | Guide For Parents | YoungMinds](#)
- [Mental Health \(interculturalyouthscotland.org\)](#)
- [How to talk to your kids about fake news - BBC Bitesize](#)
- [Racism and mental health - Mind](#)
- [Racism and mental health | Mental Health Foundation](#)

Professional Learning Opportunities for Educators

BRL applications are closed for 2024/2025, with over 300 participants set to join us for Cohorts 5 and 6. You can sign up to the Keep Me Informed list [here](#) for news of upcoming developments and sessions. All educators can access our self-directed professional learning activities (see below).

- [Becoming an anti-racist educator](#)
- [Talking about racism: steps to improve racial dialogue in education](#)
- [Racial trauma: consequences of racism on mental wellbeing](#)

Anti-Racist Clubs Network

Anti-racist clubs across Scotland are becoming safer, braver spaces for children and young people to discuss their experiences of racism.

One young person shared the impact of their club in a blog post:

“The club has given us confidence, we are learning from each other about being anti-racist, we are more aware of other people’s cultures, and we feel anti-racism is being taken seriously in our school. We are feeling safer, proud, happier, stronger and most importantly - heard.”

[Young Person’s Perspective – Creating an inclusive and safe environment for everyone | Professional Learning Blog | Professional Learning | Education Scotland](#)

Education Scotland facilitates an Anti-Racist Clubs Network for educators across Scotland to share experiences, ask questions and support each other in setting up or running an anti-racist club. If you work in an education setting in Scotland and are interested in finding out more, you are welcome to sign up to the Anti-Racist Clubs Network here: <https://forms.office.com/e/JnYR0RA6Q9>