



Equality Ambassadors Project

Hopwood Hall College

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Equality & Diversity and Learner Experience Manager



RISE

LSIS

Equality Peer Ambassadors Project

- Hopwood Hall College's Equality Ambassadors Project was set up to look at equality issues that were pertinent to young people and their backgrounds, communities and the Borough of Rochdale.
- We used an approach of using equality characteristics underpinned by human rights values.



Our Peer Ambassadors



We trained 15 learners and 2 staff members as Peer Ambassadors to champion, challenge and debate a range of controversial equality topic areas.

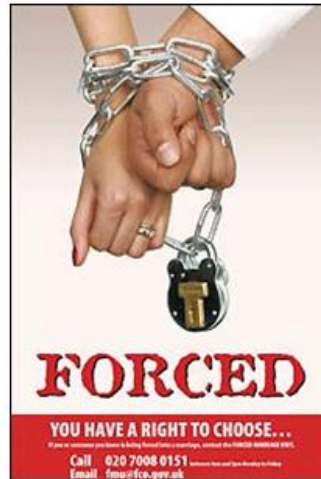


Three Groups

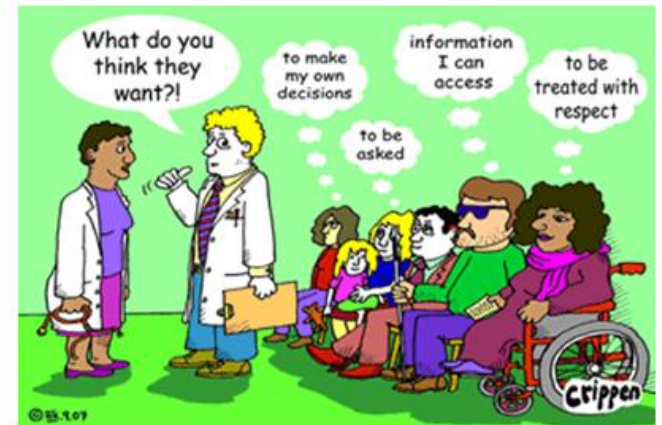
- Learners received one of three specific training sets centred on equality characteristics which provided them with the relevant underpinning knowledge to allow them to champion a range of equality and human rights topics.
- Through tailored training and coaching learners were supported to ask challenging questions using a methodology called Philosophical Enquiry in which they received a level 1 qualification through SAPERE.



Group 1: Race, Religion and Age



Group 2: Sex, Disability, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Civil Partnerships



Group 3: Cohesion, Extremism, Socio-Economic Issues...



Rochdale grooming ring: Nine men jailed over attacks

Nine men have been jailed for committing a series of sex attacks as part of a child exploitation ring in Rochdale, with the judge telling them they treated their victims as 'worthless and beyond respect'.



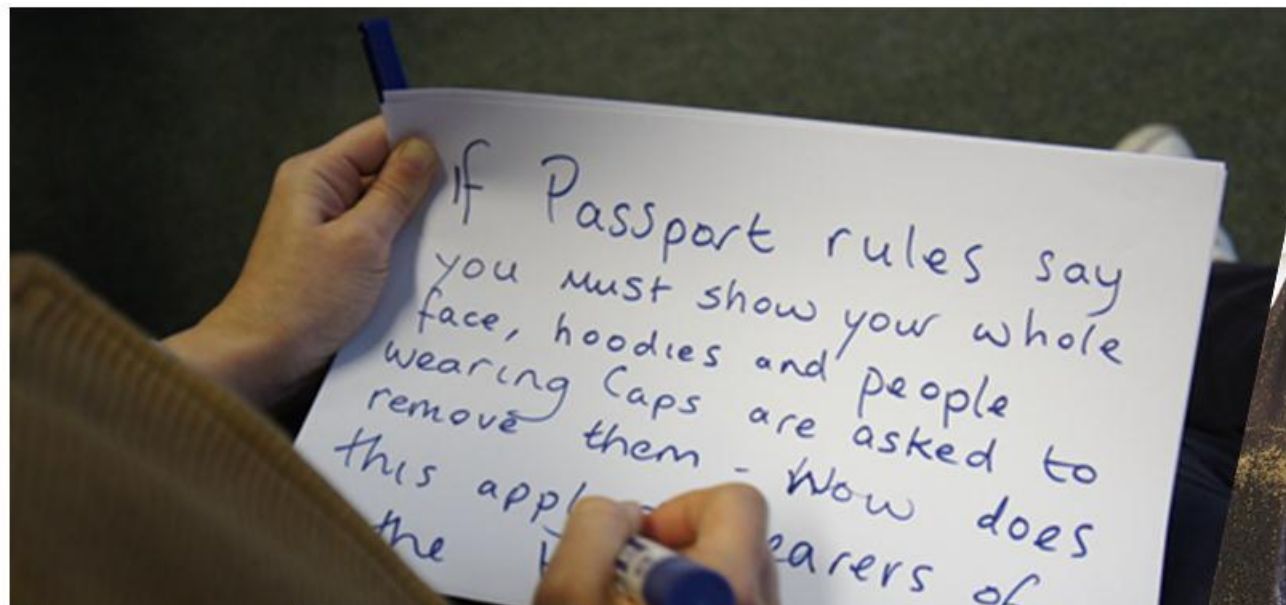
...Within a local and national context.



Practical Element & Demonstration

- The project was successfully demonstrated through three workshops delivered at the College's Learner Voice Conference on 15th May 2012 where learners facilitated discussions or 'enquires' with their peers on their specific equality topic areas.

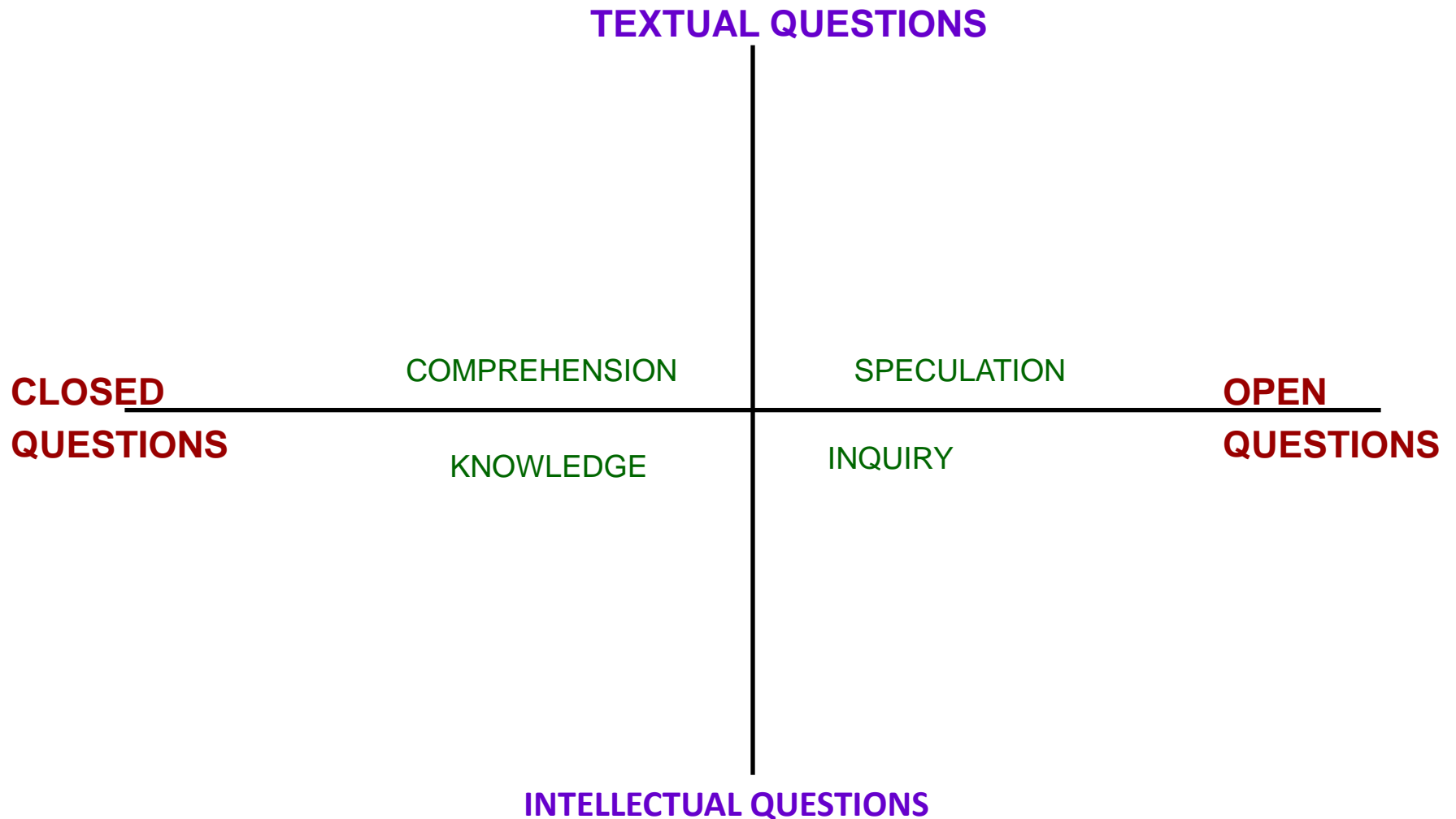




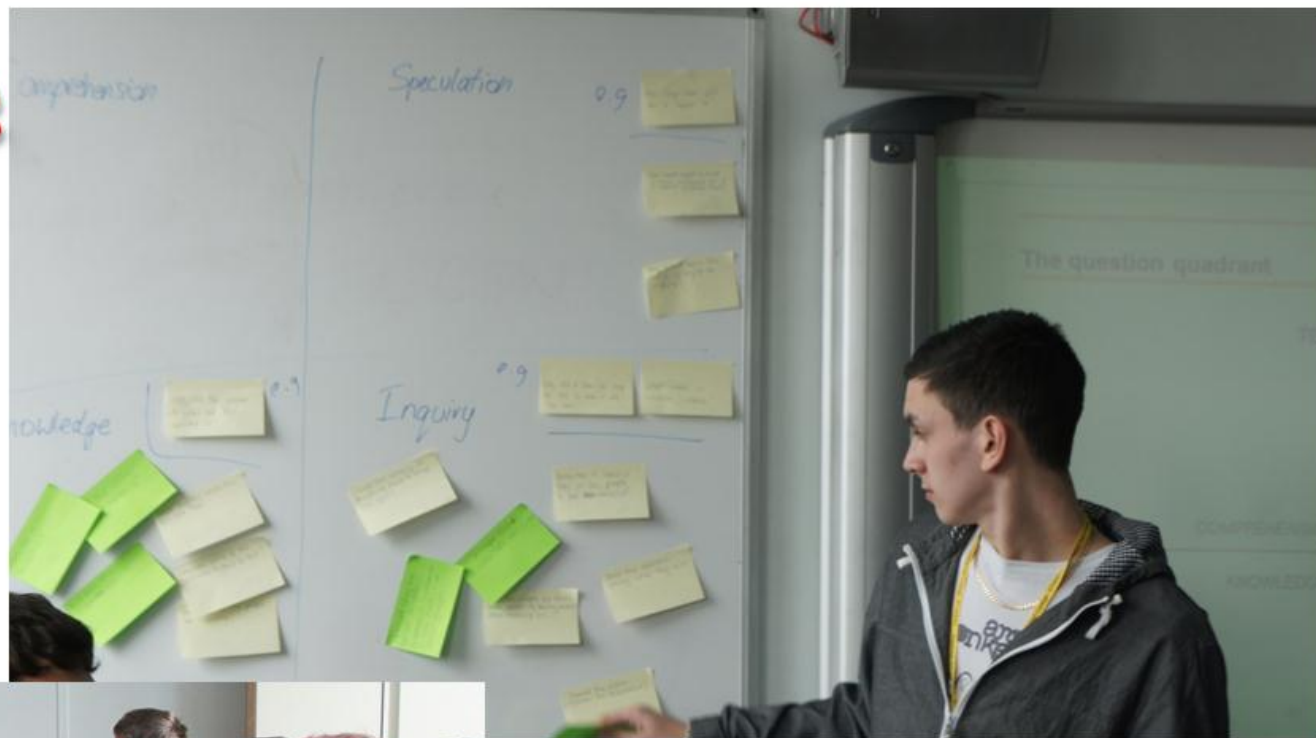
Freedom to express yourself

MY IDENTITY!

Philosophical Enquiry Technique



Safe Space



Debate & Discussion

Key Achievements

- 15 learners and 2 staff members trained.
- Learners are able to provide advice, support and assistance to fellow learners to discuss and debate, effectively challenge and role model mutual respect and acceptable behaviour / attitudes towards other.
- Equip and develop learners as active citizens and role models within the College and in the wider community.
- Additional qualification for learners – SAPRE
- Further develops our Learner Voice strategies – ‘Outstanding’ by Ofsted (June 2011).



Impact

- Learners understand the law in relation to E&D and how these play out in real life.
- Learners and participants consider the views they hold on specific issues and through enquires learn to question divisive narratives and constructively challenge topic areas.
- Raise awareness and understanding of equality issues, removes barriers, tackle prejudice, discrimination and harassment.
- Learners work together across the College community.



Participants' Feedback

Overall, the Learner Voice Conference ...	Strongly Agree	Agree	No opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Allowed me to meet with new people...	76%	24%	0	0	0
Was interesting and useful...	65%	35%	0	0	0
Was fun and enjoyable...	67%	33%	0	0	0
Allowed you to develop your understanding of equality and diversity issues...	73%	21%	6%	0	0
Activity 1: Strongly Agree or Strongly Disagree	69%	31%	0	0	0
Workshop 1: Race, Age and Religion	81%	19%	0	0	0
Workshop 2: Extremism, Socio-economic, Cohesion & Exploitation.	80%	13%	0	7%	0



What did you enjoy?

**"I enjoyed hearing other people's opinions,
even when I didn't agree with them all.
I liked that everyone got to speak their minds."**

'Engaging with learners on contentious issues.'

**"I ENJOYED MEETING NEW PEOPLE AND LEARNING ABOUT
DIFFERENT AREAS OF EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY."**

"Open discussions about important issues."

**"I enjoyed delivering the workshops as it was good
for everyone to get involved and voice their opinion in
a safe space."**

"The workshops changed my point of view."



Other Comments

"THE OVERALL DAY WAS A BIG SUCCESS ALLOWING US TO TALK ABOUT PRESSING ISSUES WITHIN THE BOROUGH AT THE MOMENT IN A SAFE AND CALM ENVIRONMENT."

"I now have more confidence with learning and presenting."

"It was a great experience."

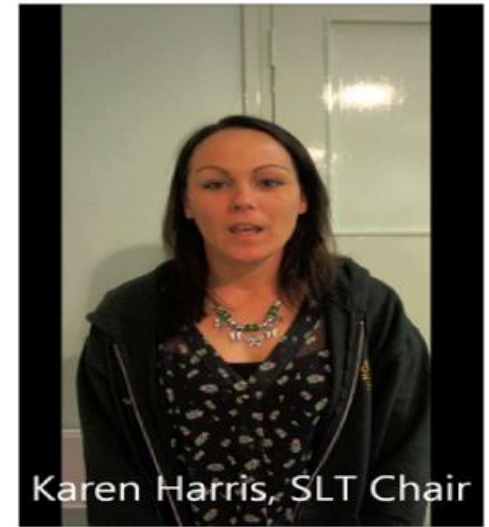
"Enjoyed the sessions and learners engaged well."

"Keep up the good work."

"I really enjoyed the day and meeting new people."



Feedback from the Event



Karen Harris, SLT Chair



Danny - Workshop Participant



Contact Details

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