

Youth Values: Identity, diversity and social change

Classwork

As part of this study we would like to undertake some classwork with young people in each of the research site schools. The aim of these classwork assignments would be to explore young people's attitudes and ideas in a number of key areas identified through the first stage of the research.

We would like to negotiate:

- a) ideas for classwork with each school and ensure that these 'assignments' fit with existing curriculum requirements;
- b) the *numbers* of young people that participate in the classwork;
- c) the *timing* of the classwork.

Ideas for classwork include:

Problem pages: Young people would be asked to provide answers to problems using the format of the 'problem page' from a magazine. The content of these problems would be derived from the dilemmas that young people provided in their questionnaires although they would be change and anonymised to ensure confidentiality. These 'problems' could be customised for particular year groups. We have included some possible examples below.

Trigger words: Trigger words could be used as the basis of a brainstorm leading to creative writing and / or artwork. We have included some possible examples below.

Tell me about it!

Dear Jo,

Can you give me some advice. I've just started secondary school and things are really different than they were in my last school. I don't like fighting but my friends reckon that if you don't prove that you can look after yourself then you are going to get picked on. I don't want to get in any trouble but I don't want to get bullied either, what do you think I should do?

Spice girls fan - Surrey

Dear Jo,

My best friends boyfriend has been flirting with me. I don't know what to do. Should I tell her about it. If I do, she will probably blame me and we will have a row. If I don't he will probably go and do it with someone else. Also, I quite fancy him myself. What can I do?

Mariah Carey fan - Surrey

Dear Jo,

My friend has been taking drugs and I can see that it is hurting them and changing their personality. If I tell on my friend they could turn a lot of people against me and make life hard for me. If I don't tell, that person could get seriously hurt. What should I do?

Fugees fan - Surrey

Trigger words for brainstorm, spidergram, story or picture

Leaving

Trust

Guilty

Segregation

Good/bad

Telling

Different

Belonging

Excluded

Hero

Sad.

