

Citizenship Update

Autumn 2001

Secondary

Welcome

We hope that this newsletter and those that follow in the spring and summer terms will help you with ideas, information and practical support for the implementation of Citizenship in September 2002. Inevitably this format limits us in the scope and depth we can cover topics and so we hope that our forthcoming INSET programme will provide a way for us to answer many of your concerns in greater detail. A booking form appears on the back page of this edition and we look forward to hearing from you. In the meantime if you have comments or suggestions (or case studies for inclusion in subsequent Updates) please contact us at the address at the bottom of the page.

News Update

QCA Guidance

Last term we mentioned the draft units of work for KS3 which have been issued by QCA, and have now been finalised, at www.standards.dfes.gov.uk. This is accompanied by a new guidance booklet that has useful and practical information on a range of issues including teaching controversial issues. This will be invaluable in planning schemes of work and whole school policies so download a copy, by following the links to 'schemes of work', if you have not yet seen it.

GCSE Short Courses

Although there will be no compulsory qualifications as part of KS4 Citizenship there are already plans in the pipeline for courses to suit those schools that want them. AQA, OCR and Edexcel have all submitted courses to QCA for consideration. Watch this space for news about when the final specifications are available.

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Guidance

As well as the guidance and units of work being put together by QCA, other organisations are developing documents to help with various aspects of Citizenship. The Institute for Citizenship has a Teacher Starter File, which is a general introduction to implementing Citizenship (details from Nelson Thornes on 0870 241 3059). A consortium of organisations have produced Citizenship Education: The Global Dimension (details from the Development Education Association on 020 7490 8108). And the Citizenship Foundation is developing material on diversity and mutual respect (available next year, for details phone 020 7367 0500)

Community Links

Last year we mentioned that Community Service Volunteers were putting together a database of useful organisations that can offer support and help to schools. The list is now available (details on page 3) and you can search by themes and areas of interest, or by geographical regions, and also find useful guidance on how to go about building successful projects and partnerships.

SCHOOLS WANTED

The Institute for Citizenship is currently piloting several new packs of resources. Secondary schools keen to pilot materials on Sustainable Development should contact Lee Jerome on 020 7241 7414 lee@citizen.org.uk for free packs and details of our piloting agreement. Those interested in developing economic issues across KS4 to complement careers and work experience programmes should contact Jeremy Hayward on 020 7241 7419 (jeremy@citizen.org.uk) to discuss the range of resources being developed.

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Focus On

Peer-Education

Peer-education, already successfully utilised by many schools, is an excellent example of active citizenship, providing an opportunity to constructively engage students and make them feel they are a valued part of the school community.

Repeated studies show that both parties can gain greatly. The benefits can include:

- Increased self esteem
- Increased self awareness of the learning process
- Students' abilities in the subject improving
- Both parties gaining an increased enjoyment of the subject
- A stronger sense of community within the school

Running a project

Running a peer-education project will require training for the students. This may vary from one or two sessions for paired reading through to a programme of training for peer-mentoring, perhaps covering such issues as communication skills, confidentiality and negotiating boundaries. Such training requires planning, but the skills gained would

be highly-transferable and provide a good basis for other active participation in school and beyond.

After initial training, however, peer-education projects are usually quite low maintenance in terms of staff time. This, coupled with multiple benefits to both parties, means that peer-education can be a highly effective use of school time.

In planning such a project local LEA advisers are a good place to start. They may know of similar projects already up and running in the area, which could provide ready-made resources and expertise. Some training assistance may also be available from child psychologists, or staff and students from other schools.

Beyond the LEA other help is at hand:

A good site for further information on peer-education is provided by Dundee University www.dundee.ac.uk/psychology/ReadOn/ The site contains background information on peer-tutoring, a detailed account of a local project and also offers resources, some of which are free to download.

Next March the BBC will be publishing a video and support pack *Getting Involved* focusing on active citizenship. One of the short films centres around a peer-tutoring project, a theme that is also picked up in the accompanying resource pack.

Active Citizenship: Getting Involved Video Pack

Price £19.99 ISBN 544066 Available March 2002

Order from: BBC Educational Publishing
PO Box 234, Wetherby, West Yorkshire,
LS23 7EU

or by credit card on 0870 830 8000

Community Service Volunteers (CSV) offers Reading Together a half-day training programme and support materials to assist in paired reading. **For more information please contact Jess Levene 020 7643 1311.**

Peer education alone cannot provide a whole programme of active citizenship, but it can play a central, cost efficient role in an overall school programme.

Active Citizenship By Janice Rafael

Citizenship consists of three main elements:

- **social and moral responsibility**
- **community involvement**
- **political literacy**

Volunteering is an essential part of citizenship. Limited public awareness about volunteering can result in people not perceiving it as a part of citizenship. A 1998 survey on public attitudes about citizenship showed that only 4 per cent of people thought, 'volunteering to do things' was a main element of good citizenship. Interestingly, other questions which often involve volunteering activities, 'being active in the community', 'looking after the environment', 'giving something back to your community/society' and 'improving your local area/community' were all placed higher in the survey.

Citizenship curriculum

From August 2002 citizenship becomes a statutory requirement at Key Stage 4. The sections of the citizenship curriculum directly related to volunteering include:

- **the work of community-based, national and international voluntary groups and the impact they have on social changes/policy**
- **media in society**
- **conflict resolution**
- **the world as a global community**
- **issues of global interdependence and responsibility.**

In addition, political, spiritual, moral and social problems are included as potential research and discussion topics.

It is largely dependent on individual teachers to decide which sections of the citizenship curriculum they focus on although the National Curriculum for England states that citizenship education will encourage students to play an active part in their schools, neighbourhoods, communities and the world. If voluntary and community organisations can encourage teachers to promote the community involvement sections of the curriculum, it will hopefully lead to more young people playing an active part in society through volunteering.

Teaching resources

Encouraging teachers to tackle this area is only one way to make progress, we recognise that providing practical help and support are more important. Hackney Agency for Volunteering (HAVE) has developed a teaching resource for Key Stage 4 and post-16. The *Shaping Citizenship* pack provides resources to assist teachers to introduce volunteering to the citizenship curriculum. It provides information, exercises, guidance notes and classroom activities based on the relevant sections of the citizenship curriculum. It includes a teacher's guide, teaching resources for photocopying and a computer disk with the classroom activities so teachers can customise the handouts.

To order *Shaping Citizenship*, contact Hackney Agency for Volunteering, 92 Dalston Lane, London E8 1NG tel: 020 7241 4443 Ext 27 e-mail: hackneyvb@aol.com price £18.00.

INSET Booking Form

SECONDARY INSET

A one-day course that provides an overview and introduction to Citizenship at Key Stages 3 and 4.

The day will include:

Background to Citizenship and update from QCA and OFSTED

Models of Delivery

Schemes of Work

Interpreting the National Curriculum

Assessment

The Institute for Citizenship also offers tailor made INSET for individual schools, LEAs and primary teachers.

For further details, contact Helen Young on 020 7241 7414 or at helen@citizen.org.uk



BOOKING FORM

Please tick the event you wish to attend:

Monday 19 November 2001 in London

Tuesday 5 February 2002 in Exeter

Tuesday 26 February 2002 in Leeds

Tuesday 2 July 2002 in London



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Name (to appear on your name badge) _____

Position _____

School/Organisation _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Email _____

Tel _____ Fax _____

Special requirements (e.g. diet, access) _____

How to Pay (The cost includes handouts, tea, coffee, biscuits and lunch)

I enclose a cheque for £95 made payable to the Institute for Citizenship

Please send an invoice for £95 to:

Please debit £95 from my MasterCard/Visa/Eurocard/Delta/Switch* (*delete as appropriate)

Card No _____ Expiry date of card _____ Issue Number _____

Issuing bank _____ Name (as on card) _____

Cardholder's Address _____

Please note that INSET bookings are transferable but non-refundable

Signature _____

Date _____

Please return this form (or a photocopy) to Helen Young either by fax (020 7241 7412) or post at Institute for Citizenship, HPDC Queensbridge Building, Albion Drive, London E8 4ET