



fivenations

Five Nations Network Conference

11am 26 February- 1.30pm 27 February 2022

‘Achieving Climate and Racial Justice - Is Citizenship Education the key? ’

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The 2021 Five Nations Network conference will discuss two key political movements - for racial justice and the environment. Both have risen up the political agenda around the world and both have featured young people in leadership roles. Together we will consider:

- The background knowledge required to understand the issues and to build our understanding of climate change and racial injustice, and how they relate to each other.
- The debates within (and beyond) the movements about the causes, consequences and likely solutions.
- Political debates about the range of citizenship activity (from party politics and institutional policy development to international activism) and how to evaluate what works, what might be counterproductive, and what we, as individuals, might do about it.
- What this means for moving Citizenship education forward across the five nations.

The conference aims to:


- bring together teachers, practitioners and other stakeholders from across the five nations so that we can learn from one another about developing high quality citizenship education that responds to our distinctive contexts
- discuss the role of citizenship teachers in responding to the current political issues, particularly those where young people occupy prominent roles
- review how teachers can make connections between these contemporary issues and thus connect to the broader curriculum for citizenship education
- explore different teaching approaches that help students to develop informed opinions about these urgent issues
- consider the opportunities and challenges in nurturing young people’s political agency, especially making informed decisions about what types of citizen action are appropriate
- encourage new thinking and learning about citizenship education, teaching and practice and promote dialogue and collaboration across the five nations.

Conference Programme

Time	Programme	Notes and location
Saturday, 26 February 2022		
10.00	Registration	Reception area
11.00	Pre-Meeting country group activity	TBC
12.15	Lunch	Reception area
13.15	Welcome & conference orientation – Liz Moore ACT Chief Executive and Five Nations Programme Director	Main room
13:30	Guest Speaker - Professor Charlotte Williams <i>Moving forward: Black Asian and Minority Ethnic Perspectives in the new curriculum in Wales</i> Guided reflection and discussions	Main room
14.30	Tea break	Reception area
15:00	Lightning talks by workshop leaders and world cafe activity <i>Towards Race and Climate justice</i>	Main Room
15.45	Choice of workshops and seminars:	
	1. Karen Brooke <i>Diversifying and decolonising the curriculum</i>	Break out 1
	2. Caroline Murphy <i>From Eco-Anxiety to Eco-Action: A Climate Justice Approach for the Classroom!</i>	Break out 2
	3. Mark Irwin <i>Teaching Climate Change</i>	Break out 3
16.30	Check-in to hotel rooms	
18.45	Pre-dinner drinks	Reception area
19.15	Conference Dinner	Main room
Sunday, 27 February 2022		
08:30	Breakfast	Restaurant
9.30	Guest Speaker: TBC	Main room
10.15	Choice of workshops and seminars:	

Sunday, 27 February 2022		
	1. Huw Griffiths <i>Cynefin and the Story of Wales</i>	Break out 1
	2. Ben Miskel and Sera Shortland <i>Sustainable Citizenship lessons, in the context of Lord Jim Knights Bill and the new Climate education strategy</i>	Break out 2
	3. Melina Valdelievre <i>Building Racial Literacy programme</i>	Break out 3
11.30	Tea Break	Reception area
11.45	Country group activity	TBC
12.45	Conference close	Main room

Speaker and session details

Saturday 27 February	
Guest Speaker 	Professor Charlotte Williams OBE <i>Moving forward: Black Asian and Minority Ethnic Perspectives in the new curriculum in Wales</i> <p>In November of 2021 the Welsh government took the historic step of making mandatory the teaching of Black, Asian and Minority perspectives in the curriculum. This makes Wales the leading nation in the UK to take this step. The preparation for the roll out of the new curriculum is well underway, with primary schools in Wales adopting it from September this year and secondary schools to follow in 2023. How did this come about? What key drivers made the Welsh government take this step? Nevertheless, there remains a number of questions pertinent to the role of citizenship education in advancing this ambition. What exactly will mandatory mean in this context? How can we ensure the momentum is sustained? And what models might characterise how schools engage with this thematic?</p>
Workshops And Seminars	

	<p>Caroline Murphy <i>From Eco-Anxiety to Eco-Action: A Climate Justice Approach for the Classroom!</i></p> <p>This will be a practical hands-on workshop where you will have the opportunity to work in small groups to explore interactive activities for addressing climate justice in the classroom. You will look at a sample of active learning methods for building:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Knowledge, Interpretation and Understanding about the injustices inherent in the system driving climate crisis ● Critical and Inquiry Based Insight ● Resilience and Wellbeing for addressing Eco-Anxiety ● Transformative Action <p>Through a process of learning by doing, together with your peers, you will leave with a range of ideas and activities for bringing back to the young people in your classroom.</p>
<p>Other speakers, workshops, and seminars to be announced soon.</p>	

About Five Nations

The Five Nations Network is a unique forum sharing practice in education for Citizenship and values in England, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The work is generously funded by the Gordon Cook Foundation and managed by the Association for Citizenship Teaching (ACT). The Five Nations Network is also recognised as a Council of Europe Regional Network of the Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education programme.

Annual Conference

Each year our conference brings together teachers, policy makers, NGOs, academics and others from each nation to explore and discuss citizenship and values education. This year, our nineteenth conference will focus on “Changing Communities: recognising schools as sites of transformation”. Information on previous conferences including videos of guest speakers is available at www.fivenations.net/annual-conferences

Funded Small-scale Research and Development Projects

Since 2009, the Five Nations Network has supported teachers and educators take forward small-scale development projects on citizenship and values education. The purpose of each initiative is to support the development of effective citizenship practice and teacher’s own professional development. Information about previous projects can be found on the Five Nations website at www.fivenations.net/research-funding

Strategy Group

The work of the Five Nations Network is overseen by our Strategy Group. The group comprises two 'country leads' for each nation, the Five Nations lead trustee from the Gordon Cook Foundation and staff from the Association for Citizenship Teaching. The group meets a few times each year to plan the annual conference, award grants to project applications and discuss how to further develop the work of the Network.

Strategy Group Contacts

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