

Case Study

Envision School Team



School: Burntwood School
Region: London
Age range: 16 - 17 years old
Issue: Cultural Stereotyping



What issue did they tackle and why?

The team felt that not enough people socialised with others from a different cultural, racial or religious background. As students in a country increasingly affected by these issues they felt it was important that the future generations transcended ignorance and appreciated the great things that diversity brings.

What did they decide to do?

They decided that the best way to combat stereotypes was through holding a '**Cultural Week**'. This included food tasting, a day where everyone wore a blue ribbon to signify unity, and a cross-cultural Blind Date. They also used these events to raise money for Unicef.

Their finale was a cultural show held in a local community hall in Balham, which included Bhangra dancing, a dhol drummer, accapella singing and a speech from **local MP Sadiq Khan**. The event was attended by 150 people and all in all their project raised over **£500 for Unicef**.

While organising their event they worked closely as a team and in cooperation with their school. Team members found their own prejudices being challenged and have acted as role models to other students at the school.



What is the Envision Schools Programme?

Envision works with teams of young people based in schools and colleges. Starting with the question, "What do you want to change?" teams are supported to investigate issues relevant to their lives as local and global citizens. Led by their own ideas and supported by staff and trained volunteers, teams plan and implement a project to tackle whatever issue they are passionate about - learning to be young leaders and gaining vital employability skills along the way.

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Achievements

Fundraising

The team raised £500 for Unicef - a charity they felt represented the global nature of the team and their project - through their series of events.

Influencing decision-makers

MP Sadiq Khan was among the local community members enjoying a range of performances and entertainment at the cultural show.

Improving understanding

The project leaves a legacy of improved understanding between different cultural groups within the school.

Skills and Knowledge Gained

Event Management

The team produced a high- quality event on a restricted budget, without ever compromising on quality. It was successfully advertised to local residents and ran smoothly even with 150 guests.

Communication Skills

Local businesses were contacted and persuaded to supply food, funding and support for the event.

Managing a budget

The team ensured that the funds they had raised at the start of the project were used wisely to fund their event. They managed their money carefully to ensure their event was a fun experience which generated the maximum possible donation to Unicef at the end..

Testimonials

“On behalf of UNICEF I wish to thank the Envision group ‘Who are You?’ and everyone involved in this evening’s Cultural Talent Show, for raising money to support the work of UNICEF. We are incredibly grateful for your support.”

Ben Keene, Unicef

“On behalf of Memon Association UK, it was a great pleasure to help you and your entire team to raise money for charity. We are also very pleased and proud of you, to know that young girls living in today’s society are putting so much of their time into charity work. We wish you all the best of luck and would be honoured to be a part of such events in the future.”

Memon Centre

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