

# PRINCIPLES OF YOUTH SOCIAL ACTION

## How does youth social action enhance the curriculum?

Engaging in a social action project such as this one develops young people's communication skills as well as enhancing the Citizenship, SMSC, and PSHE curriculum. It also promotes community engagement for schools and may also support writing for purpose, History and Geography as well as arts and careers programmes –depending on which activities and conversation starters are chosen.

### Reflective

Recognising contributions as well as valuing critical reflection and learning

### Challenging

Stretching and ambitious as well as enjoyable and enabling

## What does great youth social action look like?

The #iwill Campaign has identified a set of **six principles** which define great youth social action.

### Embedded

Accessible to all, and well integrated to existing pathways to become a habit for life

### Youth-led

Led, owned and shaped by young people's needs, ideas and decision making

### Progressive

Sustained, and providing links to other activities and opportunities

### Socially Impactful

Have a clear intended benefit to a community, cause or social problem

#iwill  
movement

Youth Social action describes activities young people can do to make a positive difference in the world around them. This could include fundraising, campaigning or volunteering. The project was shaped by the six principles of high quality youth social action created by the #iwill campaign.

The youth social action should be shaped by the young people themselves. In this project, we invited the students/pupils to choose what issues they wanted to focus on –(see the 'Open Space' activity in preparatory session 2 slides) for a meaningful but practical way of doing this. We also tried to ensure there was as much pupil agency throughout as possible as well as regularly reflecting with the young people on what worked well for them and what they wanted to see more of in the project.

## Useful guidance and resources:

[#iwill campaign](#)

[UK Youth](#)

[RSA 'Citizens of Now' primary research project](#)

[Young Citizens](#)

