

**Royal Docklands Community School
- Arms Trade, Protest and Citizenship**

A group of six students created a protest film, 'Where is the Love?', that is a brilliant example of active citizenship addressing a local event and its global consequences.

You can buy the film as a resource, or better still book the student team who made it - who can run a session, showing the film (15 minutes long) and addressing the issues of how it was made. A great way of starting a film-making project, through peer presentation that emphasises the need for research and preparation before filming.

A group of students responded to the problems of travelling to and from school due to the public protests against the International Arms Fair at the local ExCel centre. They were fired into action after they attended a community forum about the disruption.

They got support from the school's Informal Education Team, and later, the Head of English. Meeting at a local café after school, they went on to get funding from Firstlight and to get the help of a professional film making group, Community Speak. Their resulting film is personal, riveting and powerful, including interviews with local people and a bemused press officer for the Fair.

For further details of the film and booking the team you can contact:

Isabel Hallett/Tony Cartwright
Tel: 020 7540 2700

You can also read an article about how the film was made at the Campaign Against Arms Trade website:

<http://www.caat.org.uk/information/magazine/1204/interview.php>

**Connections at the Ragged School Museum
15 Feb - 7 July 2005**

Do visit this brilliant exhibition currently on view at the museum. It displays the history of the Asian, Black and Jewish communities in Britain, with a particular focus on the interaction between these groups.

The exhibition will be available for schools and other organisations to hire from July 2005.

For information contact:
Project Manager, The Connections Exhibition,
PO Box 42745, London N2 0YW.
Tel: 07981 169932 or
Email: info@connections-exhibition.org

You can also view the exhibition online at:
www.connections-exhibitions.org

WATER

Global Dimension in the curriculum

Did you know or do your pupils know that:

- 2.2 million people in developing countries, most of them children, die every year from diseases associated with lack of access to safe drinking water, inadequate sanitation and poor hygiene. Most of these cases could be prevented or treated.
- The average person in the developing world uses 10 litres of water everyday
- The average person in the UK uses 135 litres of water everyday
- Only 0.008% of the planet's water is available for human consumption and is found in lakes, rivers and underground aquifers

22 March 2005, World Water Day saw the launch of the UN International Decade of Action on Water. This promises to finally put water and sanitation at the top of the international development agenda. Here is an excellent opportunity to add the Global Dimension to the curriculum while teaching about water

Some recommended websites:

<http://www.globalfootprints.org/issues/global/water/global>

<http://www.oxfam.org.uk/coolplanet/water/index>

<http://www.wateraid.org.uk>

**Dhaka City Exhibition
in the UK 2005/6
5th -14th June 2005
at Mile End Arts Pavillion**

The exhibition celebrates the 100 year anniversary of Dhaka regaining the status of capital city on 16th October 1905.

There will be public viewing and organised school and group visits. The school visit will have an organised tour, 10-15 minutes for school pupils to look through the exhibition themselves and an interactive workshop. The interactive workshops will last between 15-20 minutes and will include tasks and further exploration of particular subject areas.

The exhibition opens from 9.30 am to 7.30 pm.

Dates and venues:

5th—14th June 2005 at Mile End Arts Pavillion,
3rd—16th Oct. 2005 at Stratford Library, London
17th—23rd Oct. 2005 at Stephen Lawrence Gallery,
University of Greenwich, London.
7th—18th Nov. 2005 at Luton Central Library.
6th—19th Feb. 2006 at Bedford Central Library.



Spring 2005

Global Footprints

Promoting global learning in schools

In the news...

Minister's Visit

The **Humanities Education Centre** promotes the values, aims and principles of development education and global citizenship through all areas of education.

Our Aims are: -

- To provide opportunities for schools to raise standards through curriculum enrichment and giving young people a voice.
- To promote a global perspective and understanding of sustainable development in the context of an interdependent system of lands and people.
- To engender an appreciation and celebration of the richness of cultural diversity in our, and other communities.
- To maintain and develop the resources to support curriculum development and provide in-service training and advice to teachers.
- To raise awareness among young people of the causes of injustice and inequality in a local, national and international context and to instil an understanding and empathy for oppressed peoples.

Langdon Park students had the unique opportunity of interviewing a member of the government, Secretary of State for International Development, Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP. He went to the school as a guest of the Humanities Education Centre, which he was visiting to find out about Development Education in East London and South East England.

The children, in research groups, having been briefed by Michael Newman and Gilleen Paterson (HEC workers) and a civil servant in the DFID, created questions and ranked them into the most important and interesting. They then interviewed Hilary Benn on camera. The film will be put on the web as part of the students' project into global human rights.

Interviewing Mike Tomlinson for Teachers' TV

HEC arranged for students from the sixth form at George Green School and members of the local youth participation group, AMP, to go to a TV studio and take part in a discussion on the future of education for 14-18 year olds. Mike Tomlinson, a previous Chief Inspector of schools, was author of a report, commissioned by the government, to propose changes in our schools and colleges. His report, the 'Tomlinson Report', made radical proposals for changing

The questions ranged from why he was a Minister, to what was his department doing about the refugees from the Morocco occupied Western Sahara. He spoke about the need to end poverty, to ensure that all people had human rights, and that everyone, including children, had a part to play.

The children have been researching issues of homelessness in Bangladesh, Somalia, Western Sahara, the UK and also the UN perspective. They have interviewed expert witnesses, including a refugee from the Western Saharan camps in Algeria. Morocco has illegally occupied their country for over 25 years. The students have been creating display posters and will be making banners with the Amnesty International Education Officer, Dan Jones who is also a local artist.

This is part of a project, *Lines in the Sand*, that has been running in two other schools, Morpeth and George Green School. The students' work will be used to produce web pages and other resources which can be used to explore human rights through English and Art.

the examination system, making it broader, with more choice, and making vocational learning as important as academic learning. A proposal for turning the GCSE system into a diploma system and changing the A-levels to build upon the diploma, had a lot of support from the educational world.

HEC receives regular requests from national and local NGOs for students to take part in events or training. For the opportunity for your students to take part, join our mailing list by contacting Michael Newman on 020 7364 6405 or email michael.newman@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Humanities Education Centre
Tower Hamlets
Professional Development Centre,
English Street, London E3 4TA
Tel: 020 7364 6405
Fax: 020 7364 6422
Email: hec@gn.apc.org

Students Contribute to National Political Debates

You can get your students involved in debating current political issues with other young people from around the UK, and get their views read by key politicians!

Hansard is the organisation that supports and promotes democracy in Parliament. They have created a website called 'Headsup' to encourage young people to get involved in democracy.

All you have to do is to sign-up your school. You will get a password that enables you to sign-up your students, each one getting their own password and username. Then it is up to them. They can access the website at any time and take part in the six debates that take place during the year. There are helpful teachers' notes, and articles that brief the students about the relevant issue.

The English School Student Association had its first national meeting last term. HEC arranged for two Langdon Park students to attend and proposed to St Pauls Way School Council that they should join.

ESSA is a national representative organisation that is supported by the TUC and DfES amongst others. Get your school council to join, visit their website at: www.studentvoice.co.uk/

Debates coming up include: Apr 25 - May 13 'Turnout or turn off?' a General Election 2005 Special exploring what gets people interested in politics!
June 20 - July 8 'Trade Justice...' who benefits from globalisation?

Visit the website NOW! For an introductory workshop on using the website why not contact Michael Newman at HEC, and book the CLC.

www.headsup.org.uk

General Election and Young People's Political Participation

On Tuesday 26th April between 1:00-3:30 pm at the Tower Hamlets City Learning Centre, teachers and their students (4-5 per teacher) can take part in on-line activities and debates about politics. Linking with teachers and students in Newham, and others around the world, they will learn about websites and opportunities to become active, as well as addressing the issues of rights, power and change.

Other organisations involved include Hansard, the local youth participation group AMP, and the virtual reality conference centre the Global Learning Community (www.glc.me.uk/conferences/).

For booking and further information contact Michael Newman on 020 7364 6405.

Recent additions to the Humanities Education Centre's websites



- Tower Hamlets Policy Guidance on Anti-Bullying and Anti-Harassment for schools is now on the site.
- Point of View: Oaklands School working with Magic Me and Sundial Centre on an intergenerational combined arts project for disaffected students.



- Old Ford Primary School: Anti-bullying Policy developed with parents, staff and children available. Also downloadable resources to use in school.
- Woolmore School: Year 6 Digital Video After-School Club project, including Eid assembly video clip.
- Kobi Nazrul School: Year 4 worked with Tower Hamlets Waste Education department to raise awareness of recycling issues.



Western Sahara
(in the 'World' section)



- Find out more about the history of the Western Sahara, background to the political landscape, its people and information about the Refugee camps.
- Read stories written by children about their daily life.
- Find out what you can do to help in the Useful Links and Resources' section.

East End Eye

A new website by young people for young people in Tower Hamlets to be launched in the Summer term.

A chance for your students to have their voice heard and their excellent work shown.

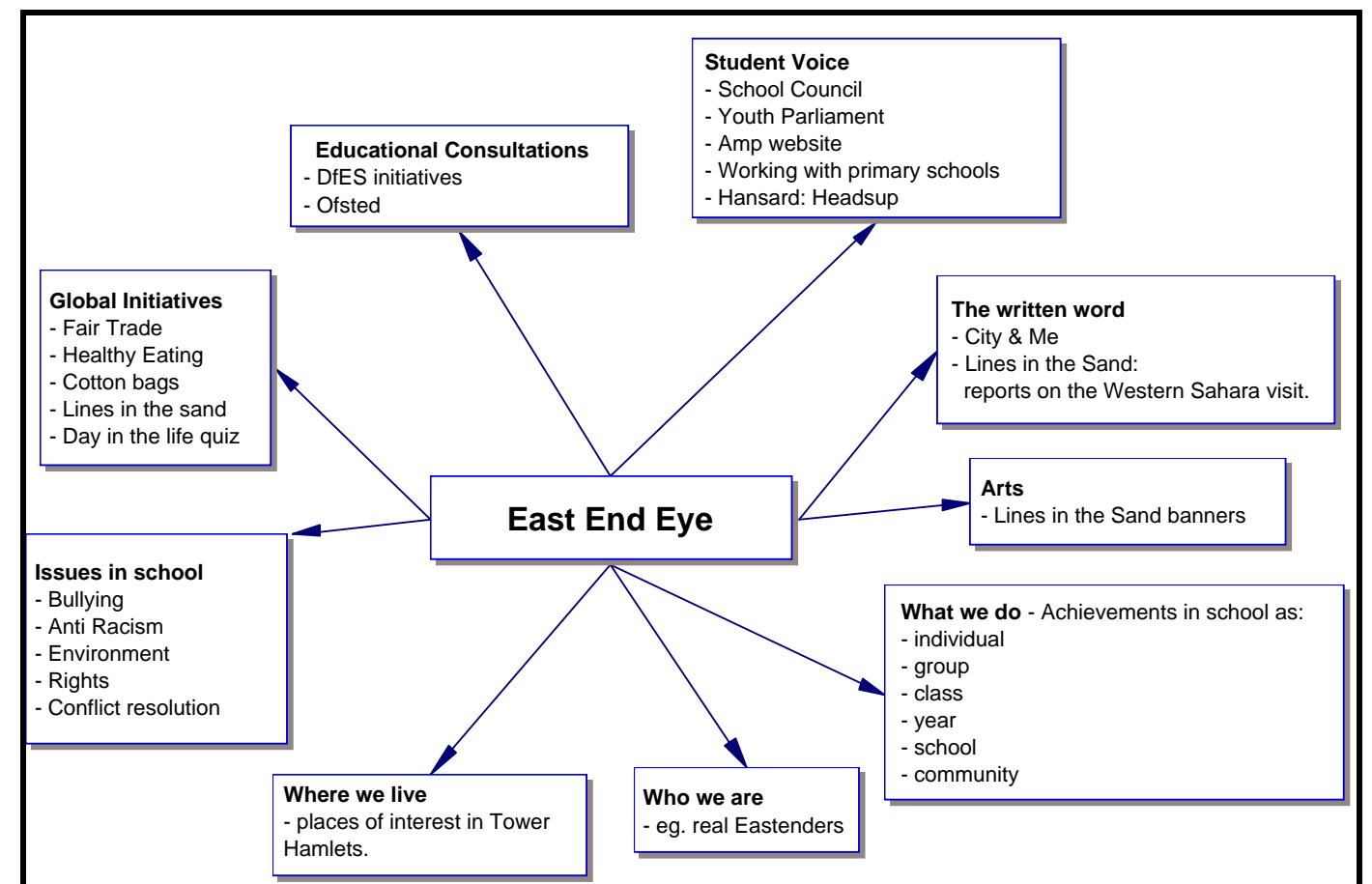
The aims of the **East End Eye** website are:

to enable secondary school students to

- have a voice within the education sector
- see themselves as active members of the wider learning community
- share their experiences and ideas and to learn from each other

within the framework of the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child*.

East End Eye website working structure



We are looking for materials, ideas and suggestions for the development of the site. If you have any proposals, questions, or would like to send any of your work for contribution please contact:

Hazuan Hashim or Mazharia Rahman at the Humanities Education Centre
Tel: 020 7364 6405; Fax: 020 7364 6422; Email : hec@gn.apc.org