

Interdisciplinary Learning Session

Teenager of our time – a message to the future:

Cross curricular links English, History, Film and Media, Modern Studies, Drama, Music

(Notes by Roslin Pettigrew, Broughton High School.)

STARTING POINT: Change in the Air – Edinburgh in the 1950s

The Whose Town? project provides pupils with a window to the past by allowing past generations a voice. The 'Change in the Air' strand allows pupils to meet some of the people who have helped shape their city within living memory. This could be used as inspiration to lead pupils to create their own message to future generations.

SUGGESTED PLAN

Preparation

In normal class time (perhaps in a History or English lesson) pupils are introduced to Bachan, Hugh, Bill, Selma and Iain. Time should be given for the pupils to discuss what they have learned about Edinburgh in the '50s and for pupils to produce a piece of written work, i.e. a report on Edinburgh in the '50s. Pupils could add more material by researching '50s music, fashion, films, newspaper headlines, etc.

On the day

- Pupils work within their group/ class as a documentary production team in order to produce a documentary about life in Edinburgh today.
- The documentary could include footage of pupils discussing pictures of themselves, in a similar way to what they have seen in the Whose Town? resource.
- Pupils could also include their feelings on topical news issues of the day. This could be further developed by allowing pupils to carry out vox pop recordings around the school or local area.
- Pupils could go out into the local area to take pictures.

N.B. As the production of the documentary will require the use of equipment it is suggested that each class in the year group works on the documentary on a separate day.

Follow up

- Pupils may have to be given technical support to help them put the documentary together. Edinburgh Central Library Digital Information team informationdigital@edinburgh.gov.uk can provide some advice and support on creating films with young people.
- Schedule a showing of the results. Showing the results to pupils from other year groups could stimulate class discussions.