

‘The Real Picture: strong communities or broken society?’

Citizenship through photography competition

Competition guidance

The competition

All staff coordinating entries are asked to read this competition guidance before completing the initial expression of interest form or submitting a final entry. The competition poses a question ‘The Real Picture: strong communities or broken society?’ to be addressed by competition entrants through photographs. We are looking for entries from individuals or groups of young people aged 16-19 that demonstrate not only creative ability but who can use photography to demonstrate an understanding of the citizenship issues of community cohesion and how to influence it (see section below for further information).

The competition entries will be shortlisted by a panel of expert judges with expertise in photography and citizenship education. The shortlisted entrants will be invited to attend a final exhibition and adjudication event hosted by the Houses of Parliament in Westminster, on Tuesday 9 March 2010. At the event shortlisted entrants will be invited to say a few words about their entries and adjudicators will choose and announce a winner and award prizes. All shortlisted entries will be published on the post-16 citizenship website. The adjudication panel will include prestigious adjudicators with expertise in citizenship education and the creative industries. British Artist Peter Kennard, renowned for his political photomontage work, will be on the panel.

The competition is run by the Learning and Skills Improvement Service (LSIS) Post-16 Citizenship Support Programme and aims to provide an engaging focus for involving learners in topical and controversial issues by promoting creative approaches to citizenship learning.

Citizenship and community cohesion

Successful entries will need to demonstrate through the presentation of photographic images, captions/titles and context statements that in the process of producing images, citizenship learning has taken place.

Citizenship education enables young people to learn about their rights and responsibilities, understand how society works, and develop knowledge and understanding of social and political issues. Through citizenship education, young people should be encouraged to take action on issues of concern to themselves and play an active part in democratic processes, thereby becoming more effective members of society.

There has been much debate about the nature of community cohesion, what it is, how it can be fostered and how citizens relate to each other. This topic is one of many sensitive issues that may arise as part of citizenship education. Citizenship education involves developing the ability to discuss, debate and advocate own and others’ views and to handle controversial issues sensitively. Such issues can arise when discussing

community cohesion, for example discussing what we have in common and how communities can be fairer, friendlier places in which people feel they have a stake. To this end we strongly recommend that in coordinating an entry to this competition time and space is given to discussing these issues both before and after embarking on taking photographs.

The free materials below contain teaching and learning activities and guidance to support citizenship learning and we strongly recommend use of these by staff with young people in preparing competition entries:

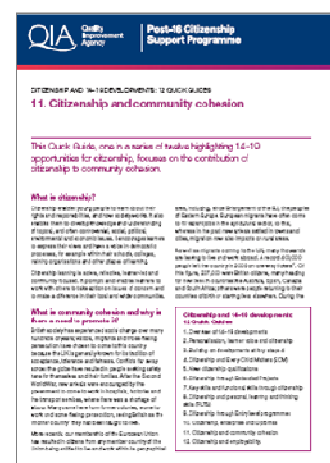
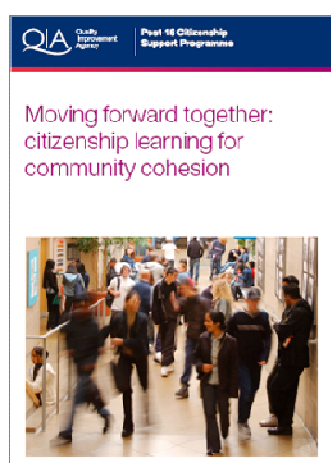
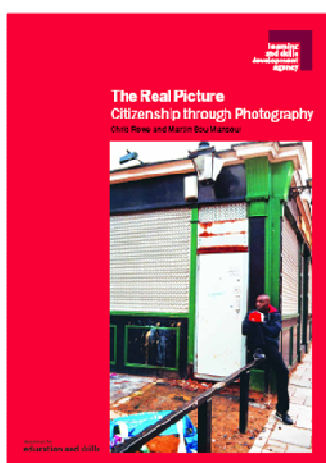
The Real Picture: citizenship through photography provides guidance on composing photographic images and activities relating to using photography to stimulate citizenship learning.

We all came here from somewhere: diversity, identities and citizenship contains activities to generate discussion and debate around images of Britain, cultural identity, multiculturalism, addressing stereotypes and taking appropriate action in relation to these issues.

Moving forward together: citizenship learning for community cohesion builds on the 'We all came here from somewhere' resource above with activities to encourage young people to explore further what needs to be done both at a policy level and through local actions to make communities more integrated and cohesive.

Citizenship and community cohesion quick guide gives a useful overview of promoting community cohesion and the contribution citizenship education can make.

These materials are all available to download from www.post16citizenship.org/publications or, if you are viewing this information on screen, by clicking on the images of the publication covers below. See also www.post16citizenship.org/communitycohesion for further information and links.



Competition criteria

To be considered entries must:

- Clearly and creatively depict a response to the question posed by the competition title 'The Real Picture: strong communities or broken society?'
- Be accompanied by a caption or title (max 15 words) decided by entrant(s) that outlines the meaning/intention of the piece or helps convey its message

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- Be accompanied by a citizenship context statement written by entrant(s) which describes in a maximum of 250 words how the work done to prepare the image and any purpose for which the image has been used explores and influences the question posed by the competition title*
- Entrants must be available to attend and participate in the exhibition and adjudication event on Tuesday 9 March 2010
- Take account of the competition terms and conditions (see below)

**Note: Staff working with entrants are asked to ensure particular attention is paid here to competition guidance on citizenship and community cohesion to help support entrants in the work required in order to successfully complete the citizenship context statement on the final entry form which is strongly weighted in the judging criteria.*

Terms and conditions

- Entries created by individuals or groups are equally welcome as are multiple entries from the same organisation (a separate entry form must be completed for each piece of work submitted)
- The written permission of any individuals who are identifiable in the photographs must be obtained before entries are submitted
- All elements of the entries must be entrants' own original work
- Entrants must be aged 16-19
- Entries must demonstrate respect for others, should not contain swearing and must be within the law. Entries should encourage positive, peaceful ways of persuading and influencing in relation to community cohesion
- By entering the competition, each entrants agree to allow LSN and LSIS non-exclusive rights to use the images for educational purposes
- LSN and LSIS cannot be responsible for the welfare and conduct of learners entering the competition. They remain under the responsibility of their organisation with their activities covered by the organisation's insurance especially when in public places and members of the public are involved

Entry format

- Each entry must be a single piece in its own right – this could be a single photograph or a single montage of several photographic images or photographs used for example, as part of a single leaflet, article, poster or webpage
- Photographic images may be digitally enhanced, altered, superimposed etc to communicate desired message – imaginative use of images is encouraged
- Completed entry forms and entries should be posted in a hard-back envelope and must be presented in hard copy at a minimum size of A4 as a printed photograph, colour print-out or original artwork. This must be accompanied by a CD-ROM, DVD or memory stick containing an electronic version of the completed entry form and electronic file or scan of the entry itself in jpeg or PDF format (see <http://www.freepdfconvert.com/>) in the highest possible resolution/quality. The minimum acceptable file size for electronic files is A4, 150dpi (1754 x 1240 pixels) unless entry is a webpage in which case electronic version must be saved as a 'web single archive file'.

How to enter

We ask staff coordinating entries to complete and return an **initial expression of interest form** by **1 October 2009** to notify us in advance of your intention to submit a full entry. Full completed entries which conform to the entry format and competition criteria above should be submitted in a hard-backed envelope with a **final entry form** no later than **18 December 2009**. To discuss your preparations for entering or for clarification on any of the competition guidance please call Helen Wiles on 020 7492 5000 or email citizenship@lsnlearning.org.uk