



Introducing 'Cool It!'

Cool It!

What is 'Cool It!'?

The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, London, have been awarded funding from the Climate Change Challenge Fund to run a climate change communication project.

The aim of the project is to expand upon the already successful 'Cool It!' day concept developed by the Council, and to encourage and enable other London Authorities to adopt this approach.

The project is managed by ecsc in collaboration with Bigfoot Theatre Company, who are responsible for devising and delivering the creative element of the project.

How does it work?

The 'Cool It!' programme has been designed so that it can be utilised by LEAs (Local Education Authorities), as well as individual schools and education centres, on a number of levels. The programme itself is divided into three distinct sections, each working to achieve the same goal; to inform, enable, encourage and inspire young people to change their attitudes to climate change.

Workshop programme

Students from selected schools will be invited to participate in an assembly and workshop programme, which aims to change young people's attitudes to climate change, in a positive and creative way. Following an interactive assembly presentation, to which all students will be invited, students from two classes will participate further in either a creative writing or devising workshop. The students will explore the issues highlighted in the assembly and discuss how they feel about climate change and what they as individuals can do to take action against climate change. The students will then either create pieces of writing or a performance piece which will be displayed or performed at the 'Cool It!' day.

'Cool It!' day event

The 'Cool It!' day event will be an opportunity for students who have participated in the assembly and workshops, and other children and families in the borough, to take part in a variety of activities aimed at understanding and promoting awareness about climate change and its effects. The work created in the writing workshops will be displayed at the event and students will present their performance pieces with and to each other.



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Resource pack

A comprehensive pack of resources and activities has been created to provide teachers and students with the opportunity to explore and develop an understanding of climate change in the classroom. The resource pack also forms part of the 'Cool It!' tool kit, which has been developed by ecsc for use by other local authorities, schools and community organisations to enable them to develop their own, locally relevant, 'Cool It!' events and initiatives.

Aims and objectives

As mentioned briefly above, the overall objective of the project is to change young people's attitudes to climate change, with the following aims:

- Informing: climate change is real; this is how it happens and what it means
- Enabling: making sure young people know what they can do individually and collectively to take action against climate change
- Encouraging: making sure young people feel enthusiastic, informed and supported in addressing climate change
- Inspiring: you need to take ownership. It's your future

The assembly, workshops and resource packs will link in to many areas of the curriculum, and will also seek to encourage and improve students speaking, listening, creative writing, self-esteem and team work skills.