

How the First Give programme can support areas of the GCSE Citizenship curriculum

AQA GCSE Citizenship Studies (8100)

3.2.5 How can citizens make their voice heard and make a difference in society?

- The range of actions a citizen can take who wishes to hold those in power to account; the advantages and disadvantages of campaigning, advocacy, lobbying, petitions, joining a demonstration and volunteering
- The role of organisations such as; public services, charities and voluntary groups and how they play a role in providing a voice and support for different groups in society

OCR GCSE Citizenship Studies (J270)

Section 2.6 Citizenship Participation in the UK

- The different forms of action citizens can take to promote particular viewpoints and hold those in power to account including campaigning; lobbying; petitions and joining a demonstration
- Analyse the roles played by public institutions, public services, charities and voluntary groups in providing a voice for and support to different groups of citizens

Edexcel GCSE Citizenship Studies (1CS0)

Section D Power and influence

- The role different organisations play in providing a voice and support for different groups in society including public institutions, public services, charities and voluntary groups



During the First Give programme students investigate the key question 'How can I make a difference?' in regard to their local community. Students learn about social issues and think about what social issues are affecting their communities, before choosing one that they want to focus on helping. As well as creating a presentation around that social issue, students must plan out a piece of social action in teams. This could be a piece of advocacy work, demonstration, petition

or campaign and students are given examples of how they can take action to make a difference, as well as being supported through their own planning process.

During the programme students research and choose one local charity who are addressing their chosen social issue to support. Students must research and meet with local charities to understand why they are needed, how they operate, and what impact they have.

They must research what difference a grant of £1,000 would make to that charity and how that charity would spend the funds, taking into account charity financial information through the Charity Commission website. They must report on what difference that grant would make as part of their presentation, as well as detailing their social action and the effectiveness of it.

How the First Give programme can support areas of the GCSE Citizenship curriculum

AQA GCSE Citizenship Studies (8100)

3.5 Active Citizenship

- Students will be expected, either alone or working with others, to carry out an investigation into a citizenship issue based upon any part of subject knowledge content. The investigation will lead to citizenship action
- This process involves deciding on an issue, carrying out initial research, planning their action, taking the action, assessing the impact of the action and evaluating the process

OCR GCSE Citizenship Studies (J270)

Section 4 Citizenship action

- All learners completing the qualification should participate in action in a real out-of-classroom context. Citizenship actions should be carefully planned practical activities that address a citizenship issue or question of concern. They should aim to deliver a benefit or change for a particular community or wider society
- This process involves working as a team, identifying, researching and evaluating a citizenship issue and showing how this issue links to the citizenship specification. They should describe and explain their viewpoint on an issue, plan and undertake the citizenship action, evaluate their action and consider how to enlarge their action

Edexcel GCSE Citizenship Studies (1CS0)

Section E Taking citizenship action

- Citizenship action may be defined as a planned course of informed action to address a citizenship issue or question of concern and aimed at delivering a benefit or change for a particular community or wider society. Taking citizenship action in a real out-of-classroom context allows students to apply citizenship knowledge, understanding and skills, and to gain different citizenship insights and appreciate different perspectives on how we live together and make decisions in society
- This process involves identifying an issue, forming a team and carrying out research, representing their own and different points of view, planning the action, applying skills of collaboration, negotiation and influence as they deliver the activity, and critically evaluating their learning and the impact of the action



The First Give programme can be used to support citizenship action. As part of the First Give programme, students must plan and carry out a piece of social action in teams. Students are asked to look at a specific community (their own local community) and identify a social issue impacting on this community that they want to help. Their social action could be citizenship actions such as campaigning, advocacy, petitions or demonstrating. Students are given ideas for actions they could take and are supported in planning their action in detail. They

must use techniques of persuasion, influence and negotiation to be successful in their action. They have a deadline (the School Final) to complete their action, and their action takes place outside of classroom time.

The process for this social action follows the process of citizenship action: working in a team, identifying an issue, researching the issue, including meeting a chosen local charity that supports their chosen area, evaluating how they can address the issue effectively, planning their action, carrying out their action and evaluating its effectiveness.

Their action and evaluation of their impact forms a central part of their presentation which every team makes and delivers. The presentation is a piece of advocacy that involves the team presenting their viewpoint on the issue including their reasoning behind choosing a particular social issue, the action they took and its impact, the work of their chosen charity and how it addresses their cause, a call to action to the audience and how the grant of £1,000 would have an impact.