

The Ofsted Framework and our workshops

The new [Ofsted Framework](#), which came into practise September 2019, emphasises the importance for leadership and management to promote British Values in schools and build students' cultural capital as they learn to become global citizens.

Citizenship

Solutions Not Sides workshops can contribute to the cultural capital targets of Ofsted inspections by helping students to understand and navigate a rapidly changing 21st Century world. One of Ofsted's learning targets is to "help pupils to develop the skills needed to contribute constructively to society and bring about positive change at school, community, national and global levels".

Through hearing personal stories and allowing pupils to interact with people from other cultures and societies, while seeing how civil society can work to promote positive change and end conflicts, our workshops compliment Citizenship education. We also offer follow-up opportunities and resources for students to become changemakers in their communities and engage with issues that they are passionate about.

Critical thinking

In the framework, schools should aim for a learning outcome that helps "pupils develop the ability to think clearly and rationally about what to believe and what to do; engaging in reflective and independent thinking, making logical connections between ideas".

SNS workshops support students to be critical thinkers when they are faced with multiple narratives, opinions and claims, such as through the media. Our workshops build students' confidence to voice opinions and ideas, and work as a team to negotiate and debate before forming concise ideas to present to their class.

Students are encouraged to work with others in engaging with a global issue, considering past failures and successes, and brainstorm how to improve the current situation.

Safe space discussion

Ofsted's guidelines on implementation of education advises teachers to "promote appropriate discussion about the subject matter they are teaching" as well as "identify misconceptions accurately".

SNS workshops provide a safe space for students to discuss the Israel-Palestine conflict and ask challenging questions to real people from the region. SNS is nonpartisan in its standpoint and works to challenge misconceptions and conspiracy

theories surrounding the conflict to promote community cohesion and combat the Antisemitism/Islamophobia which can stem from this issue.

The work of SNS helps schools to perform successfully within the following specific sections of the Ofsted Framework:

Section 26:

Schools leaders should pursue “ambitious intentions” in their learning aims while providing “effective support for those teaching outside their main areas of expertise”.

- SNS provides teachers with preliminary material to teach a condensed history of the Israel-Palestine conflict; this is designed for all schools regardless of whether they already teach the conflict or not.

Section 27:

Schools should make efforts to “create an environment where bullying, peer-on-peer abuse or discrimination are not tolerated”.

- SNS aims to reduce polarisation and promote understanding and empathy in regard to both Israel and Palestine and Muslim and Jewish communities around the globe, helping to reduce Antisemitic and Islamophobic discrimination and prejudice.

Section 28:

School leaders should ensure that “the curriculum extends beyond the academic, technical or vocational” and that “it provides for learners’ broader development”.

- SNS workshops expose students to an interactive learning experience designed to enrich the existing teaching and learning relationship in social sciences.

Ofsted inspectors evaluate the extent to which the education provider prepares learners for life in modern Britain by:

- Equipping them to be responsible, respectful, active citizens who contribute positively to society
- Developing their understanding of fundamental British values
- Developing their understanding and appreciation of diversity
- Celebrating what we have in common and promoting respect for the different protected characteristics as defined in law

SNS workshops teach students to listen to, respect, understand and synthesise multiple viewpoints, recognise and reject media biases, and respect the importance of constructive citizenship and peaceful, democratic activism.

Solutions Not Sides can help schools promote the principles of British Values and prepare students to become empowered and informed citizens in multi-cultural modern Britain.