

Advice for Teaching Critical Thinking



Rohingya Community Recommendations

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**MAKE
SURE IT
ADDS UP**

Introduction

AROUK is a community-led international charity organisation that encourages and helps Rohingya people whether they were born in Myanmar (a refugee camp) or here in Bradford, to get involved in the wider community and make the most of the opportunities available. By doing this, it helps put down new roots, contributing to making Bradford a better place for all and raising awareness of the injustice and suffering of the Rohingya diaspora.

We are pleased to work with Bradford for Everyone in Bradford District on the anti-rumour and critical thinking campaign. This document will help you to understand the needs of critical thinking training and how to engage in order to deliver the training in the Rohingya community.



Background

The people we work with are mostly Rohingya refugees resettled in the UK from Bangladesh and elsewhere. These are resilient people, many of whom have experienced unimaginable trauma being forced to flee everything they knew (country, language, and culture) to seek safety and to re-establish a sense of normality in Bradford in unfamiliar settings.

They have faced decades of discrimination and oppression under successive Myanmar governments. Effectively denied citizenship under the 1982 Citizenship Law, they are one of the largest stateless populations in the world. Myanmar has deliberately failed to address the root causes of widespread abuses against the Rohingya and has refused to create the necessary conditions for their safe, dignified, and voluntary return. As Rohingya ourselves, we witnessed thousands of people being killed. Bodies were floating in the river, but no justice has been served.

In that sense, our community is more vulnerable and facing the growing challenge of rumours. Rumours play an enormous role in every crisis, because people will always fill in the gaps with the information they get. We hear constant rumours about Rohingya catastrophe and right now hear lots of stories about the Covid-19 pandemic and vaccine across the country and rest of the world.

We aim to provide this training to help to reduce rumours by developing critical thinking skills within the community and help them to use those skills to process information more effectively.



Training Methods

To promote critical thinking and raise awareness of the negative effects of stereotypes, injustices, and misleading rumours, discrimination, diversity, and equality. You can deliver the training using a number of methods, this could be from the following:

- Family friendly community-facing session in person
- Visual based training including presentation, videos, and pictures
- Online/social distanced classroom-based activities
- Talking to people directly and provide useful information about Human Rights and the diversity advantage and equality inclusion.

Communication

The illiteracy rate among the Rohingya is a shocking 80%, due to being deprived access to education in Myanmar and refugee camp. Around 60% of Rohingya have never been to school. Being forced to flee from country of origin and made stateless means not being recognised as a national by any country. As growing community in Bradford, they are adopting new culture and learning the language they need. However, to make this training useful to everyone, you should consider Rohingya language to reduce the barrier in communication.



Participants

Our participants are mostly from Rohingya tribe and refugee communities including asylum seekers in Bradford.

Resources

We can all work together to develop and share the resources for people we work with. Everyone is different and will learn in different ways.

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BRADFORD DISTRICT

