

Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging Partnership Offer 2025-26 for Secondary Schools

Through a school's focus on equality and diversity, incidences of discrimination and racism will reduce, schools will develop further into places where people genuinely feel that they belong and, as a result, they will develop a strong and positive sense of self.

Join the Student Equality and Rights Advocates (EARA) Group! Empower your voice. Embrace allyship. Build networks.

Are you passionate about equality and rights? Do you believe in the power of student voices to create positive change? Join our Student Equality and Rights Advocates (EARA) Group and be part of a movement that values every voice and fosters a culture of allyship and networking.

We are pleased to offer our first **EARA Conference for secondary school leaders** on 16 October 2025 at Wildern School. Come and be inspired by our fabulous keynote speakers and workshops but most importantly by our EARA pupils who want to share the great work they are doing to advocate for equality and rights in their schools.

Conference aims:

- To consider and reflect on the role of an actionable ally and how we can promote allyship across the school.
- Explore and share opportunities for meaningful pupil voice and participation in developing and enhancing a sense of belonging across the school community.
- To introduce the work of the Hampshire Equality and Rights Advocates and their role in promoting the Equality Act, challenging discrimination and prejudice and encouraging positive attitudes towards difference.
- Showcase the work of current EARA schools across the county led by children and young people.

Conference details:

Date: 16 October 2025

Time: 09:00-12:30

Location: Wildern School, Hedge End

This conference is **free** to attend so don't miss out and secure your place at the **EARA Conference for secondary school leaders** today!

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Sustaining and developing equality and rights through collaborative practice – Network and EARA offer 2025-26

We are delighted to invite your school to join the Equality and Rights Advocates (EARA) Network for the 2025-26 academic year. This is a unique opportunity to collaborate with other secondary schools committed to embedding equality, diversity, and human rights across their ethos, environment, and curriculum.

We believe that by working together, we can create a powerful movement for change – one that ensures every young person feels valued, respected, and empowered.

We look forward to working with you to champion equality and rights in education.

By becoming part of the EARA network, your school will:

- Collaborate with like-minded schools to share best practices and innovative approaches.
- Participate in termly EARA and network meetings focused on practical strategies for promoting equality and rights.
- Empower students and staff to become advocates for inclusive education and social justice.
- Access resources, training, and support to help embed equality and rights into every aspect of school life.
- Have opportunities for student and staff engagement, including workshops, campaigns, and collaborative projects.
- Develop and share the journey towards a more inclusive and rights-respecting culture.

Dates

	Autumn term 2025	Spring term 2026	Summer term 2026
Staff network – 14:00-16:00	4 November 2025	4 March 2026	13 May 2026
Student EARA – 9:45-12:15	13 November 2025	12 March 2026	24 June 2026

What's involved? Attendance at three student EARA meetings and three staff Network meetings across the academic year.

Autumn term 2025 – Network meeting + EARA meeting Spring term 2026 – Network meeting + EARA meeting Summer term 2026 – Network meeting + EARA meeting

The focus for the **network** meetings will be '*diversifying the curriculum and environment*' which will include an opportunity to review new resources, consider planning exemplars and good practice, and will provide an opportunity to share existing practice with colleagues.

The **EARA** meetings will provide an opportunity for the students to take a lead in promoting Rights and Equality through pupil voice and contribute pro-actively to promoting a more inclusive culture in their schools and be supported through the work of others.

This was my first meeting of the Equality and Rights Advocate Group for young people in Hampshire which brought together students from nine different secondary schools, creatively led and inspired by Minnie Moore. I was so impressed! It was one of the best workshops I have ever attended, as students gained valuable insights from experts in their fields. Students engaged with each other and the inclusivity and passion was evident throughout the morning. They left feeling empowered and ready to return to their schools to share their knowledge and lead discussions with their peers. These students want to make a difference. The welcoming environment fostered open dialogue and collaboration, making it a highly recommended experience for all involved. I can't wait to bring my group to the next session."

Assistant headteacher, The Arnewood School

Location: The networks and EARA meetings will take place in host schools across the county.

Cost: 3.5 hours HIAS time (for *all* meetings) charged at your school's relevant rate (as per your current HIAS SLA subscription). This will be charged up front at the start of the autumn term www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/hias/subscribe-hias/fees-charges.

Please sign up via the booking form: <u>Sustaining and developing equality and rights through</u> collaborative practice - Network and EARA offer 2025-26

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