

## TEACHER USER GUIDE (EASY ACCESS RESOURCES)

Thank you for taking an interest in empowering your students through using these resources to develop their knowledge on their civic and democratic rights!

These resources are an easy access version of the mainstream setting resources created, aimed for use in Special Educational Needs (SEN) or English as an Additional Language (EAL) settings. Please note that we are not conflating SEN and EAL settings - the purpose of this easy access version of the resources is to offer a foundation which you can adapt and tailor to the needs of your students, whatever they are. Since you know your students best, please use your professional judgement as you will know the types of activities that will work best for them!

You have two options on formats to use with your students: either a tutor or assembly session of approximately 15 minutes, or a one-hour workshop. All the resources cover the same political literacy topics answering the following learning questions, which have been simplified in the slides for students:

- Why is it important to know your civic and democratic rights?
- What is the difference between civic and democratic rights and how can you exercise those rights?
- How can you have your voice heard in the voting system?
- How can you continue to have your voice heard by your representatives beyond an election?

The slides for all options cover these same points, however these concepts are developed further in different ways in the one-hour workshops. For the one-hour workshop, you can choose from the options on the following page.

### **OPTION 1: Registering to vote and using your democratic voice**

This option explores in depth how to register to vote. Students are expected to have the opportunity to register to vote in this session. In this session there are explanations of how to register to vote, what counts as accepted Voter ID and the different ways people can vote. This option also includes a mini quiz on FAQs of voting. This option requires devices with internet connection.

### **OPTION 2: Getting your voice heard beyond the ballot box**

This option explores in depth how to engage with representatives. Students explore issues that matter to them and the different formats to engage with representatives. A writing frame is provided to allow students to directly engage in how to take action on an issue that matters to them. An email or letter to your representative could be sent at the end of the lesson.

### **OPTION 3: Exercising your civic and democratic rights**

This option explores the impartial online resources that are available for everyone. The main activity for this option is a digital scavenger hunt where students navigate the GLA Democracy Hub to find answers to questions about voting. Through this activity, students can actively explore tools that might be helpful to them now and in the future. This option requires devices with internet connection.

The slide decks for these sessions are adaptable and you can copy and paste different activities depending on the length of your sessions, as well as aiding the development of future sessions and activities you might want to use as a follow on from the main session. To this end, here is where you can find the following activities:

**In-depth exploration on how to vote** - Option 1 slide deck, slides 11-168

**Mini quiz on FAQs about voting** - Option 1 slide deck, slides 20-32

**Preparing to write to representatives** - Option 2 slide deck, slides 14-16

**Digital scavenger hunt** - Option 3 slide deck, slides 16-17

We hope you enjoy these resources. In keeping with the spirit of democracy, we would love to hear from you. Please consider filling out this brief survey so we can continue to empower Londoners with their civic and democratic rights!

[Click here to fill out our survey!](#)