

# Investigating a Social Issue

## Your Task:

In a group of 3 or 4, you are going to investigate a social issue of your choice. You have only three weeks to find information and to present your findings! You will work in class and at home to achieve this.

**Task 1:** Copy the following learning intentions into your jotter. Your presentation will be judged according to them!

## We Are Learning To:

- Research ideas
- Plan our work to produce the best possible presentation
- Identify and select important information
- Develop presentation skills
- Present different viewpoints accurately and fairly
- Develop expressing opinions based on research

You have got **three weeks/periods** to complete the investigation and to present the findings. The following steps will help you organise your time efficiently:

- Step 1: in your group, **decide** on a social issue for your investigation and turn it into a question, e.g. Why do people become homeless? What are the roots of sectarianism? This should take around **10 minutes**.

- Step 2: write a **plan** for your investigation into your jotters. This should take around **20 mins**. Use the following questions for this task:
  - a) Give 5 possible reasons for why the issue occurs.
  - b) How are you going to present your findings?
  - c) With which methods are you going to investigate?
  - d) Write down 3 sources where you can find information.
  - e) Are these sources fact or opinion?
  - f) Which groups are involved and what are their views?
  - g) Why do they have different views?
  - h) How are you going to reach a conclusion?
  
- Step 3: **decide** who in your group will do what kind of research until next week, e.g. library, newspapers, internet, interviews etc. This will take **5 minutes**.
  
- Step 4: find the sources, start the **research** process and **take notes** or print information out. This will take each group member **at least 1 hour** outside the classroom.
  
- Step 5: bring the information you gathered together and start **preparing** your presentation on what you have found. This should take you around **90 mins**. **Check** whether you have got an answer to all of the following questions:
  - What are the main reasons for why the issue occurs?
  - What are the sources where you found information?
  - With which methods did you investigate?
  - Were these sources fact or opinion?
  - Which groups are involved in the issue?
  - What are their views?
  - Why do they have different views?
  - What kind of conclusion did your group reach? What is your answer to your research question?
  
- Step 6: **present** your findings to the class. You have got **5 mins** to do this.
  
- Step 7: **evaluate** your own work and that of the other groups.