



Holocaust education in the UK:

- The Holocaust became part of the National Curriculum for History in 1991. It is statutory for all students in England to learn about the Holocaust at Key Stage 3 usually in Year 9 History (aged 13-14).
- Many students will study the Holocaust in Religious Studies, English and Citizenship lessons.
- The UK holds a national Holocaust Memorial Day on January 27th (marking the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau) and this is marked widely in primary and secondary schools across the country.
- The UK has a permanent Holocaust exhibition at the Imperial War Museum in London, visited by thousands of people each year.
- The British Government sponsors two students (16–18 year olds) per secondary school/ further education college to visit Auschwitz-Birkenau through the Holocaust Educational Trust's *Lessons from Auschwitz* Project (This is due to a £1.5 million grant from the Government every year from 2006-2011).
- The British Government also supports a new teacher training programme: the Holocaust Education Development Programme (HEDP) is run by the Institute of Education (IOE), University of London and jointly funded by the Pears Foundation and the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) with support from the Holocaust Educational Trust (HET). The funding for this project was announced in April 2007 and the training programme is due to start in September 2009.
- The recent interim report by Sir Jim Rose suggests that subjects such as History and Religious Studies could be merged in primary schools. Teaching the Holocaust has never been mandatory at primary level but many students do learn about the Holocaust at this age. A number of organisations such as the Holocaust Educational Trust, Anne Frank Trust (UK) and The Holocaust Centre near Newark have produced educational materials and exhibitions for students of primary age.
- School groups and private individuals visit the permanent Holocaust exhibition at the Imperial War Museum; the Jewish Museum, London; The Holocaust Centre. Educational programmes and resources are also provided by other organisations such as the London Jewish Cultural Centre and the Wiener Library.
- A number of key Holocaust organisations also arrange for Holocaust Survivors to visit schools and share their testimony with students across the country.

We would like to clarify that the Holocaust is not being removed from the National Curriculum.

Please circulate this document far and wide to all who have shown an interest in this particular issue and Holocaust education in general here in the UK.

Should you require further information please contact us at the Holocaust Educational Trust by emailing info@het.org.uk Please also view our website at www.het.org.uk

With best wishes

Karen Pollock
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