

# **Incorporating Holocaust Education into the Primary Curriculum**



# What is meant by the Kindertransport as opposed to the Holocaust?

## The Kindertransport

In the months between the Kristallnacht Pogrom of November 9-10, 1938, and the start of World War II, nearly 10,000 children were sent, without their parents, out of Nazi Germany, Austria, Poland and Czechoslovakia to safety in Great Britain.

These children were saved by the Kindertransport rescue movement.



## The Holocaust

The attempt by the Nazi regime and its collaborators to murder all of European Jewry during the Second World War [June 1941 onwards]. This genocidal policy can be seen to have evolved during the war as the Nazi regime gained more territory, and as more Jewish people came under their control. It culminated in the so called 'Final Solution', the murder of six million Jewish men, women and children.





# What do students know and understand about the Holocaust?

## Evidence from English secondary schools [UCL, 2015]

### Highlights

- ❑ 9,500 students participated, 14% were Year 7 pupils.
- ❑ 28.5% said they had learnt about the Holocaust in school before Year 7.
- ❑ 70% said they had seen the film 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas'

### Misconceptions

- ❑ 9% correctly identified that the German population who were Jewish in 1933 was less than 1%.
- ❑ 30% knew how many Jewish people were murdered during the Holocaust
- ❑ 10% said they understood what the term 'anti-Semitism' meant
- ❑ 60% [highest response] named Hitler as solely responsible for the Holocaust.
- ❑ 20% [lowest response] referred to the Nazis as being responsible for the Holocaust, whilst 10% referred to Germans.
- ❑ 20% correctly identified that the Holocaust took place in Poland.
- ❑ Over 60% incorrectly stated that someone would be shot for disobeying a direct order to kill Jewish people.



# Questions to Consider

- 1. What do you need to know before teaching your pupils?**
- 2. How would you approach teaching this topic?**



# **Carole Turner**

**Kingsway Primary School**

# Where does it fit? What is the justification for including Holocaust education in the Primary Curriculum.

- World War 2
- Prevent Strategy and Community Cohesion
- SMSC and British Values





# What's in it for the children?

‘Why should his religion stop anyone from liking him?’

‘Why aren’t they allowed to be friends?’

‘It’s really not fair!’



# Curriculum Links and Awards

- Investors in Pupils
- Stephen Lawrence Award
- Partner Schools Status



# Cross Curricular Links



## English

*Drama: Holocaust Memorial Day*

*School Assembly.*

*(Takes it's inspiration from the visit to  
The Journey by the class.)*

## PSHE

*Stephen Lawrence Story –  
understanding Discrimination,  
Stereotyping and Propaganda.*

## Understanding the Kindertransport

- *The context*
- *The purpose*
- *The impact*



## RE

*Judaism - Inspirational People from  
the Past – Moses – Flight from Egypt.*

*Jewish Festivals: - Passover*

*The importance of religion in people's  
lives.*

## THE JOURNEY

*Understanding Leo's Story – applying  
classroom learning to discussions  
and questions.*

*LIVE WITNESS – Linking  
events/learning to real people*

## English

*Guided Reading: Our Lonely Journey*

## History

*WW2 – Experiencing Evacuation*

*Evacuees from Overseas*

*WW1 - What was the impact of WW1  
on Germany?*

*Life in Germany in the 1930s for Jews.*





# Teaching The Kindertransport

## In the classroom

- Take one picture
- Starting with a story
- Propaganda and Stereotyping

## Activity

1. What message do you see in the picture?



# Teaching The Kindertransport

## Making it Real

- The Journey Exhibition – Artefacts!

## SURVIVOR TESTIMONY

## Passing the Message On

- Holocaust Memorial Day - Assembly

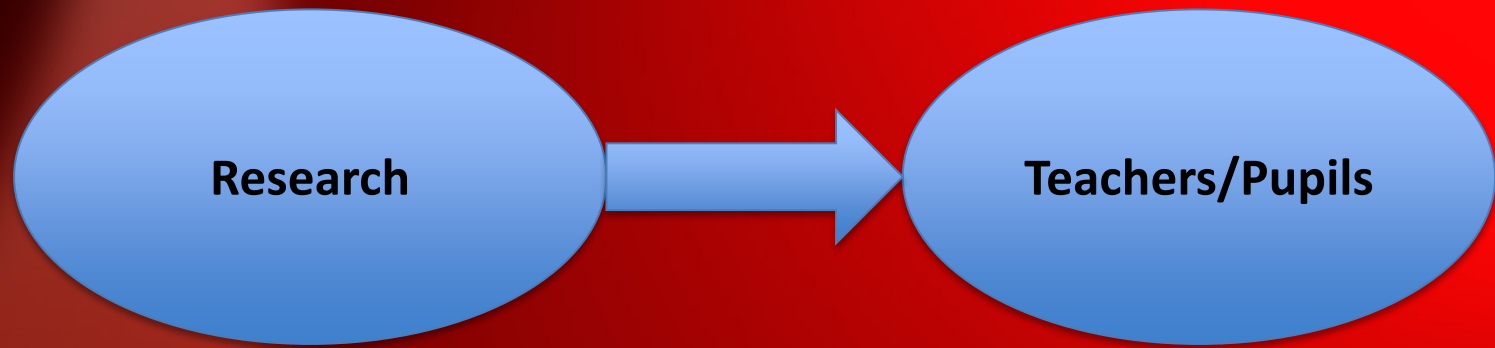
## And finally....

- Teacher knowledge is key.....
- Understanding the bigger picture
- Much more to Jewish life than The Holocaust.





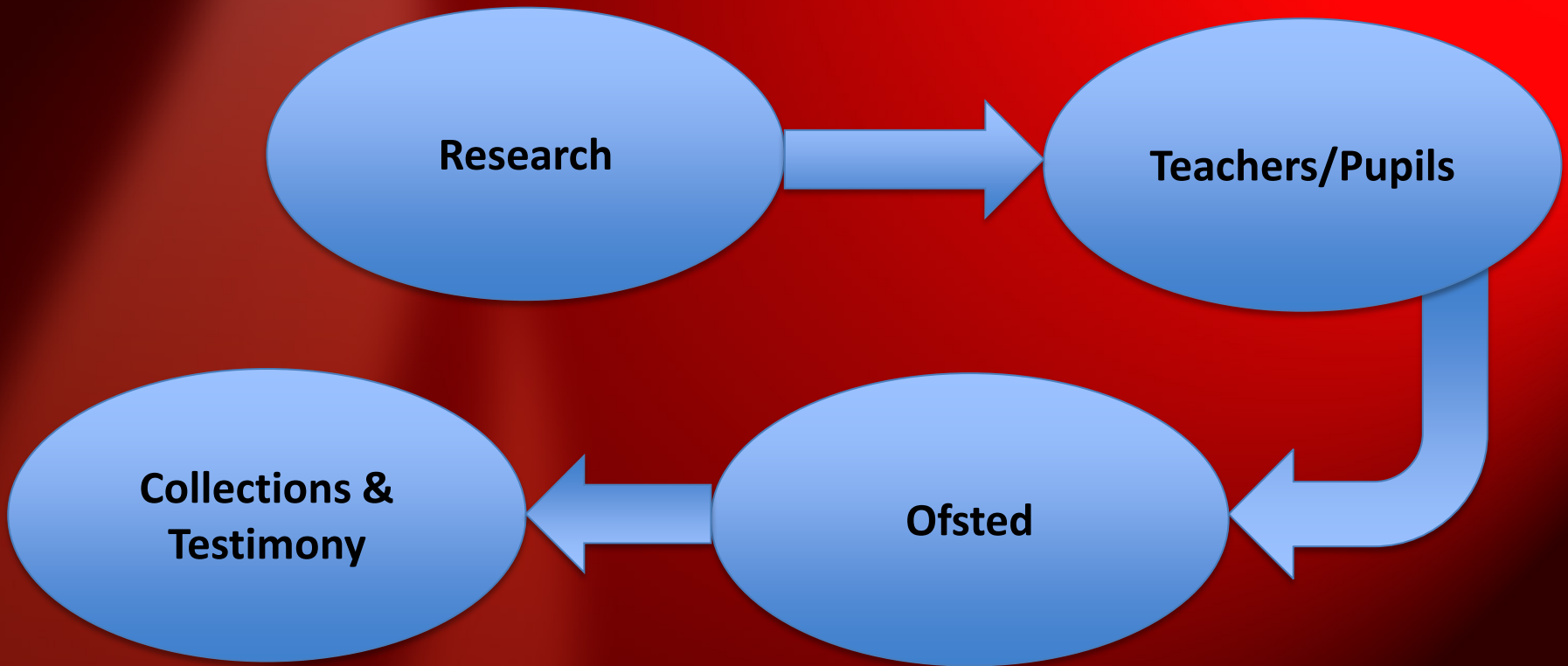
# The Impact of Holocaust Education in Primary School





James Griffiths - Clip 1

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