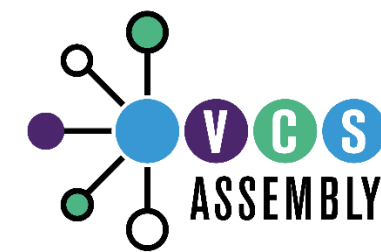


REDUCING SCHOOL EXCLUSIONS IN HACKNEY SUMMIT

Monday 23 January 2023



Hosted by **Rise Up East** with
support from **Hackney REP &
VCS Assembly**



Bringing together organisations and individuals who work with young people and families in and around education to share challenges, opportunities, projects and network, to strengthen our community-based approach to reducing school exclusions and improving re-inclusion for young people in Hackney.

<p>11:00 - 11:10</p>	<p align="center">Welcome and introductions</p> <p align="center">Chaired by Deji Adeoshun, HCVS and Immediate Theatre</p>
<p>11:10 - 11:25</p>	<p align="center">Presentations from local VCS organisations working on reducing school exclusions</p> <p align="center">Rise Up East – Aku Adjei, My Ends Programme Lead Hackney REP – Colette Allen, CEO at Hackney Quest and Sam Bosedede, The Wickers Charity</p>
<p>11:25 - 11:35</p>	<p align="center">Hackney Council/Education update on current work</p> <p align="center">Debra Robinson, Diversity and Inclusion System Leader, Hackney Education</p> <p align="center">London Violence Reduction Unit update on current work</p> <p align="center">Sharon White, Head of Strategy & Partnerships at London Violence Reduction Unit (VRU)</p>
<p>11:35 - 12:45</p>	<p align="center">Panel discussion with local experts and education specialists</p> <p align="center">Allison Vitalis, East London University, The Charlie Burns Foundation, parent governor Kieran Harris, The Wickers Charity and parent Sharon White, London Violence Reduction Unit Helena Burke, Hackney Education Yolanda Lear, Hackney CVS, Author & Founder of The Undefeated Mind</p>
<p>12:45 - 13:00</p>	<p align="center">Summit summary:</p> <p align="center">What action will you take to collaborate better to reduce school exclusions?</p> <p align="center">What will you do differently as a result of this summit?</p> <p align="center">Chaired by Deji Adeoshun, HCVS and Immediate Theatre</p>
<p>13:00 - 14:00</p>	<p align="center">Hot Lunch and Networking</p>

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

We are here to listen, learn, consider, share and collaborate to develop more effective interventions to reduce school exclusions and create a positive school experience in Hackney

Aims of the summit:

- **Identifying and discussing challenges** the local community face around participating in education
- **Identifying opportunities and actions for collaborative working** across sectors and organisations locally to reduce school exclusions
- **Sharing information and raising awareness of local work** around reducing school exclusions and supporting young people and families through education
- **Building consensus and momentum to empower and enable community led solutions** to reduce school exclusions, support young people and families and create a positive school experience

DEFINITIONS

School exclusion: begins at young person being sent out of class, put in detention, denied access or involved in education settings, suspended or permanently no longer allowed to attend a school

Suspension: a pupil is temporarily removed from the school. A pupil may be suspended for one or more fixed periods¹⁴ (up to a maximum of 45 school days in a single academic year). [Gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)

Permanent exclusion:

a pupil is no longer allowed to attend a school (unless the pupil is reinstated). The decision to exclude a pupil permanently should only be taken: • in response to a serious breach or persistent breaches of the school's behaviour policy; and • where allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others such as staff or pupils in the school. [Gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)

Off-rolling: Off-rolling is the practice of removing a pupil from the school roll without using a permanent exclusion, when the removal is primarily in the best interests of the school, rather than the best interests of the pupil. This includes pressuring a parent to remove their child from the school roll. [Gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)

Special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) can affect a child or young person's ability to learn. They can affect:

*behaviour or ability to socialise *reading and writing *ability to understand things *concentration levels, for example because they have ADHD *physical ability [Gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)

Why are school exclusions an issue?

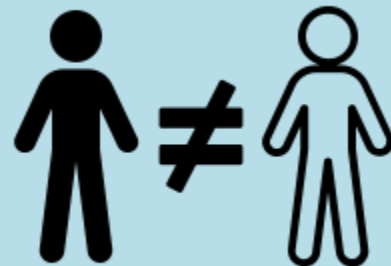
Education is a key determinant of health.

Schools play an important role in supporting the mental health and wellbeing of young people. School exclusions and negative school experiences deepen adversity for young people and families.

Research ([IPPR](#)) estimates that exclusion can cost £370,000 throughout the life of an excluded child who may need extra help with education, training, unemployment, healthcare and the costs of criminal justice

[\(Public Health England, 2015\)](#) [\(PHAGE UK Gov, 2021\)](#) [\(The Children's Society, 2020\)](#) [\(London Gov, 2022\)](#)

In Hackney: racially disproportionate and higher than national average school exclusions. Black Caribbean-heritage pupils are over four times more likely than their white British peers to be excluded from school.



[\(Hackney Citizen, 2020\)](#) [\(Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission Exclusions Review, London Borough of Hackney, 2021\)](#)

“groups of children, which include Black Caribbean boys, Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) children and those eligible for FSM [Free school meals], remain more likely to be excluded, despite schools’ exclusion powers and framework applying equally to all state-funded schools across England” ([DfE, 2019a](#))

LOCAL POLICY

Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission Exclusions Review, London Borough of Hackney, 2021 Recommendations:

- 1) That school exclusion data is published and reviewed annually by the Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission.
- 2) The Council reaffirms commitment to the principles, purpose and value of the 'inclusive school' in which schools are actively supported to help maintain children's placements in mainstream education
- 3) Hackney Education Service establishes a conference for schools, colleges and alternative provision which can explore the principles and best practice applications of positive behaviour management strategies
- 4) Hackney Education Service ensure schools are aware of SEND rights and duties; review support available to SENCO's; ensure appropriate systems for reviewing and keep EHCP's up to date
- 5) Hackney Education Service support the development of a third party intervention in secondary schools similar to the Re-Engagement Unit
- 6) Hackney Education Service and wider Council places a trauma-based approach at the centre of its approach to tackling school exclusions.
- 7) Improved safeguarding: Hackney Education Service, with City & Hackney Safeguarding partners, ensure that there are robust systems in place to coordinate effective support and risk mitigation for all pupils at the point of permanent exclusion and/ or at the point of repeat fixed term exclusion.
- 8) Hackney Education Service increase provision for prevention and early help
- 9) Hackney Education Service ensure adequate infrastructure for improved support for Alternative Provision and cross system working
- 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) Hackney Education Service review local commissioning strategy of AP, review and assess impacts of AP, ensure welfare support for those in AP, explore national support for AP programs
- 15) Hackney Education Service should lead on recognising and sharing best practice in the Alternative Provision sector among other education providers
- 16) Education Service set out details for the further development and implementation of an Anti Racist Action Plan and how local education policies and practice will address local inequalities
- 17) Develop the 'youth voice' across a range of educational setting
- 18) Commission and/or develop access to independent advice, guidance and support for parents who have experienced exclusion and work with local parent groups and other voluntary sector organisations to help develop and maintain peer networks that can engage and support parents and families of children excluded from school

No Need to Exclude Strategy, Hackney Learning Trust, 2015

REDUCING EXCLUSIONS SUMMIT PANEL

Allison Vitalis

East London University, The Charlie Burns Foundation, Parent Governor

Helena Burke

Hackney Education

Kieran Harris

Service Manager at The Wickers Charity and Parent

Sharon White

Head of Strategy & Partnerships at London Violence Reduction Unit (VRU)

Yolanda Lear

Account Project officer at Hackney CVS, Author & founder of The Undefeated Mind

To submit questions to the panel, please go to

www.menti.com and use the code 5735 1115



RISE UP EAST



Rise Up East is a local (Hackney Wick, Homerton and Marsh Hill) consortium part of the wider initiative My Ends, being delivered in 8 London boroughs addressing youth violence. My Ends programme is funded by the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), a department in the London Mayor's office focused on reducing violence across London.

Rise Up East consortium is made up of voluntary sector organisations who provide services in the community aimed mainly at 11 – 25 year olds and families: The Crib, East London Business Alliance, Hackney CVS, Hackney Wick Football Club, Hackney Quest, Immediate Theatre, The Wickers Charity.

Our mission is to empower the community through strengthened partnership and decision making about the changes that are needed in the area of youth violence, through providing interventions and activities.

Rise Up East is preventing youth violence by engaging young people in primary and secondary schools and the community in positive activities such as football, boxing, running, cycling clubs, drama, workshops around knife safety, mental well being, safety planning, employability, as well as offering mentorship programmes and involving them in decision making. Our work covers education, policing and community by amplifying the voices of young people impacted by the lack of supported opportunities, Central BCU's method around stop and search and building the capacity of grassroots organisations in the area.

Our interventions and activities contribute to reducing school exclusions by improving young people's experience of education, giving them a voice in regeneration and creating a community response plan to violent or significant incidents in the area.

While our main aim is to support young people by providing variety in the curriculum inside and outside of school, we noticed that we are increasingly helping young people and their families navigate the school system. This knowledge and experience brought partners together to discuss the issues young people are facing in schools when things don't go as planned, or when intervention with schools is needed. The lack of clear structure to make changes or challenge the system is not meeting the needs of these individuals, therefore we have called this summit.

Contact: riseupeast@hcvcs.org.uk or 07534 916 342

HACKNEY REP

Advocacy for young people & care givers to improve educational outcomes in Hackney

A partnership of 12 VCS organisations and local experts, delivering an advocacy programme that streamlines and bolsters existing community relationships and advocacy projects, aiming to reduce school exclusions and maximise positive school experiences in Hackney.

Hackney REPs provide advocacy to young people, and their care givers, who are at risk of school exclusion or facing challenges around participating in school, particularly those from Black Caribbean and African Heritage.

Hackney REP brings extensive and unique expertise in working with young people and families, education, schools, Hackney local areas, cultural nuance, advocacy, mental health and holistic person-centred support.

Hackney REP programme is seeking funding so it can be launched across all Hackney schools to support young people and families.

Interested or want to know more?
Please contact may@hcvcs.org.uk



Go to slido.com on your browser and put in the code 232023 to share your conclusions

What action will you take to collaborate better to reduce school exclusions?

What will you do differently as a result of this summit?

Reducing School Exclusions
Summit Feedback



Networking notes

PEER Ambassadors is a six-month, free, collaborative and creative programme for people aged 17–25 from underrepresented and lower socio-economic backgrounds who live and work in PEER's local area. The programme offers paid front of house work at our street-facing gallery, alongside professional development and learning opportunities. Ambassadors also work closely with an artist in residence throughout 2023-24, as part of PEER Notices. **More information:** <https://www.peeruk.org/peer-ambassadors> **Contact** Max Jefcut at max@peeruk.org or call on 07549854807

Hackney CVS Coffee and Networking Mornings, last Friday of every month. Drop in, no registration required. Everyone is welcome.

A great opportunity to network, develop partnerships, hear what is happening in the community and voluntary sector.

Contact: Soraya@hcv.org.uk

Hackney CVS: Director of Health Transformation Jessica Lubin: Jessica@hcv.org.uk

Hackney REP and Programme Coordinator: May@hcv.org.uk