



## BiG Community Challenge 2024

### Teacher Guide

Welcome to the BiG Community Challenge! Thank you for agreeing to support teams in your school in this annual programme. To support you in your BiG role, we have put together some resources to help facilitate the development of the teams and their BiG social action ideas.

#### Programme Aims

The BiG Community Challenge aims to encourage students to think about themselves, their peers, their 'community' and their surroundings while considering key employability skills and supporting key values within your setting.

The BiG Community Challenge is an opportunity for young people to:

- Find out more about their local or school community
- Get involved in issues that are important to them
- Have a voice within their local communities
- Develop key employability skills through positive action
- Raise awareness of key issues within their local area

The programme aims to encourage ambition and aspiration alongside key skills development and social understanding of their own local community. Community can refer to the school community as much as to the wider community and may support improvement to the school environment, school experience, awareness raising of key issues such as bullying, the importance of being kind to others, mental health awareness, environmental improvement such as litter picking or anything else that is important to the school community members.

**This programme is very flexible and adaptable and is designed to be suitable for all students.**

#### Support

Programme stages:

1. Form a team
2. Choosing your community
3. Come up with an idea with impact
4. Create a BiG social action plan
5. Take action
6. Complete the BiG Reflective Journal
7. Celebrate success

We've created resources to support each stage of the programme to enable a simple lift and learn approach. A new workbook has been developed to lead participating young people through the programme.

We recognise that different schools will have different approaches and time available to deliver support sessions to the BiG Community Challenge teams. The resources are there to support dialogue and learning and to be used as the member of staff sees fit in the time available.

The activity plans in this document provide links to the resources relevant for each topic.

Along the way, if you have any questions or feedback, please do get in touch with us at [bigchallenge@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:bigchallenge@sheffield.gov.uk)

### **Inspiration Station**

As part of the website, teams will have access to the BiG Inspiration Station which will host case studies from previous years BiG Community Challenge projects, and short videos from local charities and organisations involved in community-based projects. This will allow teams to find out more about their local community and be inspired by issues, projects and organisations as part of their social action planning.

### **Skills Builder <https://www.skillsbuilder.org/>**

We have embedded the Skills Builder framework into the programme to support young people to identify which skills they are using along their journey and to enable improved evidence of learning alongside their immersive entrepreneurial world of work and social innovation experiences. (Please refer to the Skills Builder section below).

### **Who can enter?**

Young people in all school years in Sheffield can enter the programme in teams of up to 12 people.

Entrants should:

- Have volunteered to take part in this programme (we do not advocate conscription) and
- Have time to be able to complete the required tasks

As they will:

- Be expected to progress their social action idea at pace

The school/youth setting will be responsible for providing the £25 initial investment to the teams but we are keen that this is not a barrier to involvement and engagement. Please contact the team to pursue alternative funding for your teams if this may be an issue.

The school is responsible for the supervision and risk assessment of the activities the teams undertake so it is advised that you have a process of agreeing how many teams you can support. Full details of the terms of the programme can be found here: <https://community.bigchallenge.biz/pages/terms>

### **Team Advisers**

We are recruiting people from local businesses, charities, and community focused organisations to the role of Team Adviser to the teams, providing extra guidance and support to the teams. This is optional. The BiG Community Challenge team will contact you to discuss if this is something you would like for your teams.

### **Skills Builder <https://community.bigchallenge.biz/pages/skillsbuilder>**

We have embedded the Skills Builder Framework into the competition to help young people to identify which skills they are using along their journey and to enable improved evidence of learning alongside their immersive social action experiences.

Pre- and post- surveys based on the Skills Builder Framework have been prepared for students to complete. This data allows us to measure impact for the programme, and in addition, the data for your school will be shared with you to use for impact measurement.

We have set up multiple ways to complete these to make it as easy as possible for students to do them including:

- QR code in the workbook
- URL in workbook
- Paper version of the survey in the back of the workbook – complete tear out, and either hand to us at a future date, or scan and email to [bigchallenge@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:bigchallenge@sheffield.gov.uk)
- PDF on the website – print off, complete and either hand to us at a future date, or scan and email to [bigchallenge@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:bigchallenge@sheffield.gov.uk)
- Link on the website

## **Key Dates**

We will provide as much notice as possible for any key dates across the competition. These will be published on the BiG website: <https://community.bigchallenge.biz/pages/key-dates> and an email will be sent to alert you to new dates or changes.

- Registration deadline – 19<sup>th</sup> April
- Reflective Journal submission deadline – June exact date TBC

## **Managing Teams**

BiG Community Challenge leads will be provided with a school login to the BiG Community Challenge website: <https://community.bigchallenge.biz/user/login>

It is important that lead teachers share their contact information with the BiG Community Challenge team to ensure that team notifications and queries reach the right person.

Teams can register their entry through the 'Register your team' link on the website homepage which will generate a notification to the lead teacher's email address for verification. Teams who are not verified will not appear on the website or on the schools' team list. <https://community.bigchallenge.biz/entry>

Individual team logins are generated after the verification to allow teams to update on their progress, add photos or logos and generate interest in their projects. Lead teachers have access to the content that is uploaded by their school teams, and this should be monitored on a regular basis to ensure quality, accuracy and relevance.

It is really helpful to teams and project leads to have a regular meeting time during the week to allow for updates and keeping on track. A BiG Community Challenge Club would also facilitate and support the session arrangements with Team Advisers.

## **Communication**

All communication will be sent from the BiG Challenge team to the registered school lead, for them to share, as appropriate, with their teams.

The BiG Community Challenge email address is: [bigchallenge@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:bigchallenge@sheffield.gov.uk)

## **The BiG Community Challenge Reflective Journal**

The BiG Community Challenge Reflective Journal allows teams to continue their entrepreneurial and social action journey and tell their story in an innovative way. These will be used to showcase the teams' efforts at the celebration event.

What ways could teams use to complete their Journal?

- Short 5-minute video
- PowerPoint with voice over
- PowerPoint with photos and notes
- Photo story book with annotation
- Written journal

## **Celebration Event**

All teams that submit a reflective journal will be invited to the BiG Community Challenge celebration event, which will take place following the end of the programme and will aim to provide an opportunity to celebrate the success of the teams and to share the impact of their BiG social action.

Further information on this event will be shared directly with school leads.

## Social Enterprise International – Change Shaping Schools

We have been really fortunate to have some amazing partners working with us to develop this programme, one of which is Social Enterprise International who have delivered social innovation programmes across the world. Some of their teacher resources have been provided to support you as your teams embark on their BiG Community journeys.

### What is Social Innovation Education (SIE)?

Social Innovation Education (SIE) fosters an attitude and drive in young people that encourages them to co-create, with a diverse range of people, social innovation projects to address social issues.

SIE is....	SIE isn't....
Student driven / ownership	Telling children what to do
Working alongside the community	Doing things for the community
Collaborative & collective problem solving	Individuals addressing problems
Developing a mindset to help society	Unaware of societal issues
Redefined child-adult relationships	Adults taking over from children
Developing competences over time	Ticking a skills outcome box
Advocates transformative action	Lack of involvement in wider issues

#### Social Innovation Education Principles:

Students at the centre
Co-creation
Transformative social action

#### Students at the centre checklist:

Do!	Don't!
Support students to freely express themselves	Listen only to adults
Action students ideas and perspectives	Ignore students' ideas and opinion
Put control in the hands of the students	Take over
Let students choose topics important to them	Focus on barriers, focus on opportunities

#### Co-creation checklist:

Do!	Don't!
Get community members, parents & businesses involved	Exclude outside help
Ensure adults and students are making decisions together	Listen to students but not act on their opinions
Have interaction between different ages of young people	Forget that inter-generational can mean all sorts of different age groups!
Encourage deep discussion to inform problem solving	Rush through stages

#### Transformative social action checklist:

Do!	Don't!
Raise awareness of societal issues	Ignore sustainability goals
Help students see that they can change the world, now and in the future	Put change in the hands of adults
Think about the skills that your students are developing	Stop at ideas
Carry out real change that has a lasting impact on the community	Act before thinking deeply about what people need
Ensure students empathise with others to create possible solutions	

The benefits of SIE for young people:




A word cloud illustrating the benefits of SIE for young people. The words are arranged in a roughly triangular shape, pointing to the right. The colors of the words include shades of red, purple, green, and yellow. The words are: confident, ownership, changemaker, relevant, autonomous, valued, sense of belonging, Empowered, Heard, equal, capable, important, self-empowered, connected, proactive, personal, and agency.

confident  
ownership  
changemaker  
relevant  
autonomous  
valued  
sense of belonging  
Empowered  
Heard  
equal  
capable  
important  
self-empowered  
connected  
proactive  
personal  
agency

## Teacher Activity Guides – Programme Launch

Learning intentions	Implementing Key Learning Episode	Resources/Material	Assessment Methods/ Success Criteria
Students will learn the basics of what the BiG Community Challenge is, and be inspired to join.	<p>Agree as a school how many teams you are willing to support (each team will need an initial £25 investment).</p> <p>Gather a group of up to 12 students together.</p> <p>Explain that you are supporting the BiG Community Challenge and why.</p> <p>Play the Student Launch Video.</p> <p>Confirm arrangements as to how teams express an interest to you if they want to take part.</p> <p>Individuals to complete the pre- survey to benchmark their current skills ability using the Skills Builder Framework.</p>	<p>BiG Community Challenge students launch video.</p> <p>Access/copies of the pre-survey for students.</p>	<p>Teams have approached you to join the BiG Challenge.</p> <p>Individuals have completed the pre-survey.</p>

## Teacher Activity Guides – Get your team together

Learning intentions	Implementing Key Learning Episode	Resources/Material	Assessment Methods/ Success Criteria
<p>LI1</p> <p>Teamwork</p> <p>Forming a team, understanding roles, responsibilities and values and setting ground rules</p> 	<p>Arrange a time to meet with the teams who have expressed an interest in entering a team in the BiG Community Challenge.</p> <p>To help the teams to form strong partnerships and have good communication, it is recommended that you work through the “Get your team together” section of the workbook with the teams.</p> <p>Get the teams to assign individual roles based on their strengths write down any agreements they make as a team as part of their ground rules.</p>	<p>BiG Community Challenge student workbook.</p> <p>Slides: Get your team together</p>	<p>Teams have formed and have built good foundations and agreed some ground rules.</p>


## Teacher Activity Guides – Choosing your community

Learning intentions	Implementing Key Learning Episode	Resources/Material	Assessment Methods/ Success Criteria
Students will learn more about what a community is their own local area, in relation to geography aswell as community.	<p>Teams should use this resource to understand more about the meaning of the word 'community' and who can make up a community.</p> <p>The focus for this resource is research. Students should be encouraged to find out more about their own local area.</p>	<p>BiG Community Challenge student workbook</p> <p>Slides: Choose your community</p>	Teams have a more informed opinion about their local area.


## Teacher Activity Guides – What is social action?

Learning intentions	Implementing Key Learning Episode	Resources/Material	Assessment Methods/ Success Criteria
<p>Students will learn more about what social action is, and the different types of activities it can include.</p> <p>They will also learn about the benefits to themselves and their communities in taking part.</p>	Teams should think about what social action is, and any examples they are aware of.	<p>BiG Community Challenge student workbook</p> <p>Case studies on the BiG Community Challenge website.</p>	Teams have a greater understanding of social action, and the benefits.

## Teacher Activity Guides – What is your BiG social action idea?


Learning intentions	Implementing Key Learning Episode	Resources/Material	Assessment Methods/ Success Criteria
<p>LI2</p> <p>Creativity</p> <p>Generating new ideas or improvement to existing ideas in line</p> 	<p>Arrange a time to meet with the teams to support their idea development</p> <p>To help the teams generate several possible ideas and then select their most promising venture(s), it is recommended that you work through the 'What is your Social Action idea?' slides with the teams.</p> <p>The Skills Builder Skills Videos in the slides help to support the teams to understand more about idea generation and the importance of empathy for individuals working in teams. The links below provide detailed support on how to deliver these videos and conversations (in the advice section, select Educators)</p> <p>Creativity This is a key skill in generating ideas so these particular steps could be really useful to your teams.</p>	<p>BiG Community Challenge student workbook.</p> <p>Slides: What is your BiG Social Action idea?</p>	<p>Teams come up with a range of ideas and then select the one they think is the most viable.</p>

## Teacher Activity Guides – What is your BiG social action plan?

Learning intentions	Implementing Key Learning Episode	Resources/Material	Assessment Methods/ Success Criteria
<p>LI3</p> <p>Problem Solving</p> <p>Generate a simple project plan to support their social action idea –include details of what, where, when, why and how on the planning template.</p> 	<p>Arrange a time to meet with the teams to support their social action idea development.</p> <p>To help the teams create a plan of action as to how they are going to promote, support and contribute to their community cause, it is recommended that you work use the 'Social Action Planning Template' with the teams.</p> <p>Encourage your teams to consider what, why, where, when and how as well as considering who they may need to talk to, what materials they may need and how to budget the initial £25 investment.</p>	<p>BiG Community Challenge student workbook.</p> <p>Slides: What is your BiG social action plan?</p> <p>BiG Community Action plan template.</p>	<p>Teams have a plan to support their BiG idea which outlines how they will take action, including why, how, when and where.</p>



## Teacher Activity Guides – Take Action

Learning intentions	Implementing Key Learning Episode	Resources/Material	Assessment Methods/ Success Criteria
LI4  Aiming High  Set ambitious targets for their social action idea that stretch the young people out of their comfort zone.  	Arrange a time to meet with the teams to support their project development.  To help the teams to develop their social action idea, it is recommended that you work through the “Take Action” slides with the teams.	BiG Community Challenge student workbook.  Slides: Take action	Teams set ambitious targets and try things they haven’t tried before.

## Reflective Journal

Learning intentions	Implementing Key Learning Episode	Resources/Material	Assessment Methods/ Success Criteria
Reflective Journal  To reflect on the whole of the social action project. To consider learning and successes across the programme.	To help the teams to produce their Reflective Journal, and develop their social action idea, it is recommended that you work through the “Reflective Journal” slides with the teams.  The teams may benefit from looking back over their completed workbooks to remind themselves of the multiple steps of the project.  Individuals to complete the post- survey. This allows us to measure individuals progress against the Skills Builder Framework, which will be fed back to programme leads. It will also allow collection of project satisfaction data.	BiG Community Challenge student workbook.  Slides: Reflective Journal – these can be used as a template for the teams Reflective Journal  Access/copies of the post-survey for students.	Teams have produced a Reflective Journal that covers their social action project