Decolonising Education

By 1914, a large majority of the world had been colonised by the Europeans, with Britain at the forefront. "**Colonialism** is the policy of a country seeking to extend or retain its authority over other people or territories, generally with the aim of economic dominance. In the process of colonisation, colonisers may impose their religion, language, economics, and other cultural practices on indigenous peoples" (Wikipedia, 2020). Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, regards reflecting on England's colonial past as "**wetness**" (Guardian, 2020), thus negating the BLM movement

- 1. Boer concentration camps
 - 2. Scramble for Africa
 - 3. Amritsar massacre
 - 4. Mau Mau uprising
 - 5. Famines in India

Scan for decolonising education toolkit from SOAS (2018):

- · Who is represented as 'other'
- Culturally appropriate material
- The impact of historical contexts
- Dominant Western-centric perspectives

Decolonisation has been regarded as a buzzword due to it being heavily discussed recently, however this should not be regarded as a tick-box diversity exercise for it to be meaningful, it is an engaged complex process. It requires rigorous reflection on your own values, assumptions and biases.



Click image for video and cc for subtitles



Image says decolonise education #Rhodes must fall

Image says don't diversify decolonise

"Whilst '**decolonisation**' is a concept that can be understood in different ways: in our usage, it connects contemporary racialised disadvantages with wider historical processes of colonialism, seeks to expose and transform them through forms of collective reflection and action" (SOAS, 2018). **#RHODESMUSTFALL** is a movement determined to decolonise the space, the curriculum, and the institutional memory, in order to fight intersectional oppression. It began in South Africa and now is a global movement. Cecil Rhodes was a Victorian imperialist who supported apartheid-style measures. Oxford University college recently voted to remove his statue

Wikipedia (2020) available at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colonialism - Guardian (2020) available at: https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/aug/27/wetness-boris-johnson-britain - Scan QR code for SOAS (2018) available at: https://blogs.soas.ac.uk/decolonisingsoas/files/2018/10/Decolonising-SOAS-Learning-and-Teaching-Toolkit AB.pdf - Kumalo (2019) available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jrSEmFumT0g