

# VoicesProject Consent Form

## Background

The Decolonising Geography group is a group of teachers and educators who have come together following mass protests from the Black Lives Matter movement fighting racism in the UK and beyond. The group formed in 2020 to combat issues surrounding race, colonial legacy and lack of pluralism within the education system.

The VoicesProject is being conducted by six members of the Decolonising Geography group primarily from **The West Midlands, London and Bristol** including representatives from the educational campaign Reroot.ED comprised of undergraduates campaigning for an anti-racist, critical and inclusive curriculum in secondary schools.

## What is the VoicesProject?

The VoicesProject is a community engagement project and educational resource that will be created using oral histories. **The project will use a narrative studies approach to explore experiences of space, place, identity, migration and empire across Britain**, from voices usually unheard from in the curriculum. The goal of the project is to broaden the range of voices and viewpoints heard in the classroom and to explore geographical themes through an anti-racist and decolonial lens.

## How will your submission be used?

Through an oral histories /narrative format, the voices of those in the project will be used to create a resource that helps teach about geographical themes in an inclusive way. The initial intention is to make the materials available to the educators within the Decolonising Geography group to use as teaching resources in their institutions. The long-term goal of the project is to have the VoicesProject made available to geography departments across the UK.

Guidance on how to use the oral histories will be created with a specific focus on how they can be used in geography lessons to have conversations around cultural pluralism, colonial legacy and societal change. We aim to create a resource that centres questioning and presenting alternatives to dominant narratives. The teaching resource will be an entry point for students and teachers to understand the diversity of experience in Britain and to deconstruct the mechanisms that marginalise some cultures and socio-economic backgrounds.

## **Participation in the VoicesProject.**

Participation in the VoicesProject will involve a conversation between two or more participants who will ask each other questions from the VoicesProject question pack.

A submission to the voices project will consist of:

- **A recording of a conversation between participants, using the VoicesProject question pack.**
- **A completed consent form from each participant.**

## **Processing the project recordings**

The recordings submitted by participants will be kept on a private unembedded platform until they have been edited for teaching purposes. The editing process will aim to keep your submitted recordings as close to the original as possible but recordings may be trimmed, cut or reordered in the process with your consent. All recordings will be transcribed so the narratives can be read as well as heard with subtitles. Participants will be given the opportunity to agree to or change the edited version of their submissions once they have been processed. The final edited version will then be uploaded onto our website. Accompanying teacher guides to the videos and audios will be made available to schools in the UK which will also be reviewed by you, the participant, before being published.

## **Freedom from harm**

The VoicesProject will be published as an online resource, accessible to all secondary schools and educational institutions across the UK. For that reason we ask participants to use a pseudonym (a fake name), initials or a nickname in a VoicesProject submission in order to protect their identity.

Potential consequences of publishing an online resource include online abuse from malicious users and redownloads and redistribution of materials (e.g transcripts of your recordings) without consent. We aim to protect all involved in the VoicesProject from harm, as a result there will be no comments section on the website and in order to get access to the VoicesProject, users will be required to sign up via email and to sign the VoicesProject terms of use.

For your protection, the recordings from the VoicesProject will not be available to share on social media nor be downloaded or redistributed without consent. These terms will be outlined in the resource conditions of use.

## Data protection and ethical use

The Voices Project will be developed into an online resource. This means that once the content is made public, the project will be in the public domain, however at all points in time you hold all intellectual property rights to the entry you submit to the project.

As the VoicesProject is a digital educational resource we aim for it to be in indefinite use. By consenting to contribute to the VoicesProject you consent to the long-term use of your entry to the online public, as well as relevant educational institutions and local communities involved in the process. You can retract your submission at any time before it is published, after the published resource has been created, we will only remove your submission in the event that it causes serious harm to you or any participants involved.

Consent for the VoicesProject is not a one-off event as the project is long-term and open-ended. Consent for this project may also require updating over time, for example in the event that the platform on which the VoicesProject is shared changes or GDPR laws are updated.

We aim to process your data in a way that maintains the security of the personal data. This includes protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage. At any point you can request access to the information that you've submitted to the Voices Project by sending an email to: [Voicesprojectinfo@gmail.com](mailto:Voicesprojectinfo@gmail.com).

**If you consent to being part of a recorded conversation and for the recording(s) to being used as a resource for classroom use in the UK, please sign and date below:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If any of the participants involved are under 16, A parent/guardian must sign here to give consent:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Upon completion, please email this form as a pdf to: [Voicesprojectinfo@gmail.com](mailto:Voicesprojectinfo@gmail.com).**