



# White Allies Network

Notes from our Inaugural Meeting – 30 June 2021

## Our processes – ideas:

1. **Expert input** – either guest speakers or YouTube videos, followed by small and large group discussion.
2. **Small Affinity groups to develop actions** – eg those living in a majority white area, those in social care or education – how to be actively anti-racist in our contexts.
3. **Ideas for individual application/action at end of each session** – including further resources on topic.
4. **Collective campaigns** – eg a collective letter to a politician, or an open letter that aims to get publicity, and we get everyone who is happy to sign their name to it? Or Twitterbomb.
5. **Responsive to issues as they arise in the news/parliament** – perhaps have template letters prepared?

## Our topics- priorities and ideas for the programme:

### A) Educating ourselves

- Histories – All our yesterdays...
  - UK history – the contribution of ethnic minorities over time towards the UK today
  - Filling in the gaps in our whitewashed histories – what do we most need to know?
  - What is the lasting legacy of empire on Africa, Asia, America and the Caribbean?
- Understanding the consequences and impact of racism when I don't experience it
- Going deeper – inward as well as outward work. Suggestion: work through Layla Saad's book *Me and White Supremacy* - questions for groups in each chapter

### B) Action – Individual/Personal

- Inner work, and how that translates into individual actions
- What impact can we have in our various roles and circles of influence on society?
- When should we challenge each other, how and why?
- Build relationships with those of other people groups
  - Work hard not to put everyone's differences in one blob – ensure South and East Asian voices/experiences are heard as well as those from African, Caribbean and Jewish origin
  - what does it really mean to be there for people dealing with racial trauma
  - how do we have conversations with our black friends to ask if they're ok
- Mentoring – could this help? If so, how can we get involved?

### **C) Action – Collective/National**

- Policing – how do we make this fair for all? Listen to them - Interview/conversation with police officers – do they think the police force can really change?
- Recruitment in our workplaces
- Statues of Empire – understanding the issues – and the options in our responses to them
- The case for reparations – and the practicalities
- How do we influence at a policy/societal level?
- How can we mobilise ourselves as a Network for change campaigns?
- Who might we partner with, and on what issues, for maximum leverage and influence?