



Charity exhibition brings Anne Frank's message to Rotherham

Press release

Embargoed till 00:01 21 Feb

The thought-provoking exhibition *Anne Frank + You*, which brings the message of Anne Frank into the 21st Century, will see young people, educators, and community leaders unite in Rotherham today (21 Feb), for an event to mark its opening. *Anne Frank + You*, presented by education charity The Anne Frank Trust UK, with funding from Big Lottery Fund, draws on themes from Anne's diary that have a strong contemporary resonance - such as opposing racial hatred, and the value of freedom - to create a thought-provoking, stimulating and reflective experience for visitors to Riverside House in this latest stage of its UK tour. The exhibition's Rotherham run is being delivered in partnership with Rotherham Council.

Mayor of Rotherham, Cllr Eve Keenan, said: "We welcome the return of the thought-provoking *Anne Frank + You 2018* exhibition to Riverside library. The themes cover contemporary issues such as prejudice and discrimination which can be related to living in a modern society. There are many people who have survived personal hardship, including myself, and Anne Frank's story can resonate with some people's personal struggles today. This display provides a fresh insight into Anne's life, with artefacts about Anne and her family and information about the times she lived in."

Grace Dunne, Project Lead for the Youth Action Project for The Anne Frank Trust UK, which is a Big Lottery Fund-supported project soon to launch locally, said: "Our Youth Action Project involves working with a group of local young people and addressing issues of community divisions, social isolation and lack of opportunities. *Anne Frank + You* provides abundant content for thematic exploration for this work. Our Youth Action group will be creatively reflecting on the themes raised in the exhibition and relating them to their own experiences."

Exhibition guides will include pupils from local schools Wickersley and Thrybergh who have been through the Trust's renowned Schools and Free To Be programmes and have gone on to become Anne Frank Ambassadors for the charity: spreading Anne's message of social justice and equality for all within their local communities.

Grace Nelson, Yorkshire and Humberside Regional Manager for the Trust said: "We're delighted to be working in Rotherham again. We have worked with six Rotherham schools to date and are proud to be equipping the young people in the locality with the skills to recognise, challenge and resist all forms of prejudice and discrimination through peer education. We are delighted to keep on working with our Ambassadors from the area at *Anne Frank + You* at Riverside House, where they will be continuing to showcase and share their knowledge and skills with other local schools and the wider community."

The launch event also features Dana Abdulkarim as guest speaker. Dana was the first Muslim woman to play rounders for England and is also a sports coach and PE teacher at Dinnington Comprehensive School. She has experienced prejudicial attitudes and discrimination in her life.

Anne Frank + You runs at Riverside House in Rotherham until 7 April, before going on to Dundee, Taunton, and Newcastle later on in the year. Admission is free.

The launch event begins with exhibition tours at 6.00pm at Riverside House - speeches scheduled at 7.00pm at New York Stadium.

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Notes to Editors:

The Anne Frank Trust UK Prejudice and discrimination harms individuals, communities and society. The Anne Frank Trust UK is an education charity. We use Anne Frank's life and diary to empower young people with the knowledge, skills and confidence to challenge all forms of prejudice and discrimination. We partner with schools, local authorities, criminal justice education services and others, to deliver education to young people in a variety of settings, predominantly in schools.

Our interactive and impactful programme includes an exhibition of Anne Frank's life and diary combined with workshops, peer education and an ambassador programme. The Anne Frank Trust UK was established in 1991 by family and friends of Otto Frank, following his wish for an educational organisation to be set up in memory of his daughter Anne. Independent research has shown that the Anne Frank Trust's Schools Programme increases students' levels of confidence and respect for others.

Our latest annual review and impact report can be found here:

https://annefrank.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/AFTrust_ImpactReport2016_LR.pdf