

# Press Release

Making Education a Priority (MEaP) launches a series of parental consultations for Greater Manchester's first African Diaspora-led Primary Free School with Nursery.

For immediate release: 17.10.18

**In the shadow of the recent Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre (University of Manchester) and UNISON public meeting, "How Our Schools Fail Black Children... and what we can do about it" a local education enterprise will be unveiling its plans for a new Primary Free school with Nursery that will attempt to address some of the issues raised.**

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Henry Ngawoofah (MEaP Director) says, "with Brexit looming and with the rise in recorded incidents of race-hate crimes, to rebuild community cohesion, it is really important that we return to the initial Free School ethos. An ethos that encouraged parents to take back control of their local schools in order to help create learning environments that better reflected their values and their diverse heritages". Mr Ngawoofah also believes, in light of the high rates of both temporary and permanent exclusions for African Caribbean young people and the more recent wider marginalisation of Muslim communities via the PREVENT strategy that a school, which celebrates cultural heritage and mother tongue teaching as educational assets is desperately needed for our ethnically diverse Greater Manchester communities.

This consultation is the first of four events that will canvass the opinions of parents and community members from across the Greater Manchester boroughs. The events will take place as part of the Education for All Project, which is supported by the Big Lottery Fund. The consultation exercise will shape both MEaP's education strategy and their application to the Department for Education (DfE).

The event will take place on:  
23<sup>rd</sup> November, 6 – 8pm  
Windrush Millennium Centre  
Alexandra Road, Manchester, M16 7WD

**ENDS**

**Notes to Editors**

Contact: Dr Ornette D Clennon (ManMet) – [o.clennon@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:o.clennon@mmu.ac.uk)

MEaP Academy Trust Consultation Page - <https://meapsite.wordpress.com/primary-school/>

Critical Race and Ethnicity Research Cluster -

<https://critracemmu.wordpress.com/making-education-a-priority-meap/>

Manchester Supplementary School Network Policy Brief for the Integrated Communities Strategy Green Paper -

<https://critracemmu.wordpress.com/2018/05/22/manchester-supplementary-school-network-mssn-policy-brief-integrated-communities-strategy-green-paper/>

Background information:

Critical Race and Ethnicity Research Cluster (ManMet) page -

<https://critracemmu.wordpress.com/research-projects/>

Grassroots organisations closely associated with Dr Clennon (ManMet) – Making Education a Priority (MEaP): [www.meap.org.uk](http://www.meap.org.uk) and

<https://critracemmu.wordpress.com/making-education-a-priority-meap/>