



Local issue: homelessness

Themes: causes of homelessness, hidden homelessness, local action

Video link: <https://player.vimeo.com/video/267867073>

These discussion questions are designed to deepen your students' learning experience. Once you have watched the video, use these questions to test your students' knowledge, cement their understanding and introduce more complex themes and ideas. Students should be encouraged to share and discuss their opinions with their peers, developing their communication, argument formation, information literacy and critical thinking skills. Whilst we have differentiated the questions for primary and secondary age groups, feel free to mix and match the questions as appropriate for your group.

Primary

- 1) What is homelessness? What does this mean to you?
- 2) Homelessness is not just what you see on the streets. Can you explain why?
- 3) How does the issue of homelessness make you feel?
- 4) Approximately how many people across the UK are currently homeless?
- 5) How did the children at Vale School learn about homelessness in their community?
- 6) What positive steps can you take to raise awareness of local homelessness issues?

P.T.O. for secondary age group discussion questions...



Secondary

Suggested answers, helpful resources and definitions have been included for our secondary discussion questions, enabling you to facilitate a meaningful discussion and take your students' learning to the next level.

- 1) How did watching this video make you feel?
- 2) What are the key things you learned from this video? What facts did you learn?
- 3) What are some of the stereotypes about homeless people?
- 4) What are some of the causes of homelessness?

Suggested responses include:

- Personal: relationship breakdown, lack of qualifications, debt, poor physical and mental health, abusive relationships, an institutional background (e.g. leaving prison or the armed forces), etc.
- Structural: unemployment, poverty, a lack of affordable housing, housing policies, etc.

Visit <https://bit.ly/2n3dcqQ> for more information.

- 5) What do you understand by the term "hidden homelessness"?

Definition: Many people who become homeless do not show up in official figures. This is known as hidden homelessness. This includes people who become homeless but find a temporary solution by staying with family members or friends, living in squats or other insecure accommodation. Please visit www.homeless.org.uk/facts/homelessness-in-numbers/hidden-homelessness for more information.

- 6) What actions could you take to help end homelessness?

Make a positive impact to your community and learn more about homelessness with our WE Won't Rest campaign materials at WE.org/gb/wewontrest.