Open Schooling CHEKLIST for tEACHERS

Use this checklist to help you navigate the steps of opening up your school to the community using science education

How to get started with open Schooling

- ☐ Study the COSMOS Principles (Teacher Policy Briefs and Teacher Roadmap)
- ☐ Discuss with your School Leadership team to ensure buy-in and support from them
- ☐ Identify potential interested school staff/teachers to create a core Open Schooling team
- ☐ Organise professional development sessions with in-school staff (TPD handbook)
  - Could you collaborate with a local teacher training institution or University to help with learning to use the COSMOS approach?

How to get STARTED WITH USING socioscientific inquiry to learn together as a community

- ☐ Identify a topic in your science curriculum that can be linked to a socioscientific issue (SSI) (practical strategies for using SSIBL).
  - Is this relevant to your students? How can you present it in a relevant, localised way? (e.g., through a scenario, using media reports)
  - Try to gage the students' thoughts and ideas about this SSI – is there genuine interest?
- ☐ Identify potential partners from *within* the school community that could help you to address this SSI (e.g., a maths or geography teacher, parents that have relevant subject expertise or experiences, a careers advisor, the school site manager, school governors etc)
- ☐ Identify potential partners from *outside* the school community that could help you to address this SSI (e.g., local community groups, charities, local council, other schools in the area, local University researchers etc)
- ☐ Meet with potential partners and discuss common interests and relevant experiences in relation to the SSI
- ☐ Plan how to make the topic into a problem for the students to solve through their science learning
- ☐ Design learning activities with your community partners, pupils and other school staff
  - What experience, or expertise from the community partners can enhance these activities?
  - Could you include a site visit to one of the community partners?
  - Have you included opportunities for students to identify individually what they think about the issue (personal inquiry)?
  - Have you included opportunities for students to explore different stakeholders' perspectives and discuss them (social inquiry)?
  - What science investigations are you going to do with the students (science inquiry)?
- ☐ Identify the support you'd need to be able to support students with implementing solutions and taking action
  - What are the possible solutions students could develop to address the problem?
  - Could the school community be the audience for the students' actions?
- ☐ Plan the evaluation of learning outcomes for subject knowledge, skills (e.g., communication, collaboration, action taking), and understanding of the socioscientific issues
- ☐ Collaboratively implement the learning activities
- ☐ Celebrate and reflect on learning across all stakeholders and community members, including students and school staff
- ☐ Identify further opportunities for open schooling

COSMOS
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