

Philip Glanville, Mayor of Hackney
Cllr Anntoinette Bramble, Deputy Mayor
London Borough of Hackney
Hackney Town Hall
Mare Street
London
E8 1EA

020 8356 4857
mayor@hackney.gov.uk

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Dear school based staff,

Work to protect children, families and staff from racism and harm

The appalling treatment of Child Q, the Black schoolgirl stripsearched by police in a Hackney school, has caused and continues to cause distress and trauma, to communities both in schools and out.

Hackney's schools and the local education system have great strengths of which you are a significant part. However the system still continues to see injustices disproportionately affecting children from Black and global majority backgrounds. These do not happen everywhere but they are too prevalent. It's up to us working together to change this urgently.

We are clear: our communities - and particularly our Black and Global Majority children - must be consistently better heard, understood, championed and protected.

Last year, the Council took a formal anti-racist position. It means we don't just confront or call-out inequality, but actively fight it. In education, this has included tackling disproportionality in exclusions; training staff to be proactively anti-racist; developing learning materials in line with our vision for a diverse curriculum; reviewing behaviour policies in some schools; and making our workforce more representative. Schools have implemented a range of positive approaches. We must continue this work together so no Black and global majority ethnic child ever experiences racial trauma in spaces they are meant to feel safe.

In particular, the case of Child Q raised concerns about police practices and policies, safeguarding approaches, and racism.

That's why we as a council have undertaken a set of critical actions, ranging from lobbying the government to change the law around policing in schools and undertaking a rapid review of the role of police in schools, to strengthening our whistleblowing policies and moving on implementing an inclusion charter.

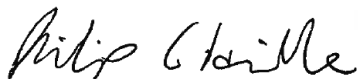
Please see the attached leaflet to show the work we are doing with our communities and alongside our schools and school leaders. Thank you for all the work you are undertaking in your school to make sure children feel safe and that they all fully belong.

If you or children you know feel triggered or upset by this topic, please find help and support below:

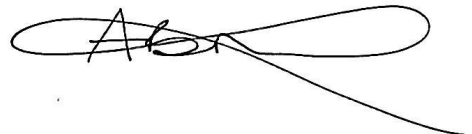
- Search '**Hackney Local Offer**' for lots of different types of support
- Chatworks Hackney is a dedicated space for Afro-Caribbean and dual heritage people to find support and improve their health and wellbeing:
chatworkshackney.co.uk
- Counsellors can be found at BACP: **bacp.co.uk**
- Therapists can be found at BAATN: **baatn.org.uk**

If you have any questions please get in contact.

Yours sincerely



Philip Glanville
Mayor of Hackney



Cllr Anntoinette Bramble
Deputy Mayor and Cabinet member for
Education, Young People and Children's
Social Care

[LEAFLET](#)