

The Forgiveness Project

Topic 1: Forgiveness and Justice - Instructions

What to do beforehand:

- Download the resources from our website.
- Ensure the staff member delivering the lesson has viewed the short film produced by the Restorative Justice Council <https://vimeo.com/124975411>
- Read through each lesson plan thoroughly and watch the films by following the link in the PowerPoint presentation of lesson 2 and lesson 3.
- Print student booklets, enough for one per student. The booklets can be printed in black and white or colour.
- Lesson 1 requires fact cards (in the student booklet on p. 3) to be printed beforehand and cut up.
- Make sure there is a projector available to present the PowerPoint presentation in class.
- Make sure that there is internet connection in order to watch the films with students. Check that the internet connection in the classroom is fast enough to stream the films. Contact TFP if you require the films on DVD.

During the PowerPoint presentation:

- Click with the cursor or use the arrow keys to navigate through the slides.

Emotional well-being of the students:

The Forgiveness Project Education Resources explore issues which some students may find distressing or confusing. Therefore it is important that lessons are facilitated by a staff member who knows the class well and can direct responses and use prompt questions to encourage healthy discussion, whilst maintaining a safe environment for all young people. Please remind students of your school's procedure for discussing issues further and the names of staff / mentors they can approach if they would like to.

Lesson 1 – Introduction to Restorative Justice

Students will explore what Restorative Justice means, how it came about and the impact it can have for all participants. They will examine why victims and offenders want to take part in the process and what they need from it. Students will start to think about what impact Restorative Justice can potentially have for participants.

Lesson 2 – Margaret Foxley's journey towards Restorative Justice

Students will hear a first-hand account from Margaret Foxley about how she interrupted a burglary in her own home and the Restorative Justice process with the offender that followed. They will examine the varying emotions Margaret experienced from the crime through to after the Restorative Justice meeting, and the impact it had on her physical and emotional well-being.

Lesson 3 – How does Restorative Justice differ from criminal justice?

This lesson builds on lessons 1 and 2 and examines the differences between Restorative Justice and Criminal Justice. Students will hear first-hand accounts from Will Riley and Peter Woolf, a victim and offender who have been through the Restorative Justice process and the impact it has had on them and their lives.