



A school student's response to a Face to Face Program presenter:

"Your story and insights have inspired us all greatly and your courage is admirable. There is no doubt that (your presentation) will stay with us and resonate with those who have heard you."

CONTACT US

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Links to the Australian Curriculum

Examples of links between 'Face-to Face' presentations and topics or learning outcomes in the Australian Curriculum:

English:

Stage 2: Identify and compare the differences between texts from a range of cultures, languages and times.

Stage 3: Discuss aspects of literature from a range of cultures to explore common experiences and ideas as well as recognising difference.

Stage 4: Understand and explain how combinations of words and images in texts are used to represent particular groups in society, and how texts position readers in relation to those groups.

Stage 5: Analyse and evaluate how people, cultures, places, events, objects and concepts are represented in media texts, through language, structural and/or visual choices.

History:

Stage 2: Respond, read and write, to show understanding of historical matters.

Stage 3: Experiences of Australian democracy and citizenship, including the status and rights of Aboriginal people, migrants, women, and children.

Stage 4: The globalising world: the contribution of migration to Australia's changing identity as a nation and to its international relationships.

Stage 5: Australia and the modern world. Depth study 4: Rights and Freedoms (1945-present).

Geography:

Stage 2: Describes the ways people, places and environments interact.

Stage 3: Identification of factors that influence people's perceptions of places e.g. media, culture, education, travel.

Stage 4: Explains how interactions and connections between people, places and environments result in change.

Stage 5: Examination of characteristics and spatial patterns of Australia's cultural diversity.

PDHPE:

Stage 2: Demonstrates sensitivity to the needs, rights, feelings and efforts of others.

Stage 3: Recognises a wide range of influences on personal identity, e.g. peers, media, cultural belief.

Stage 4: Identify strategies for coping with loss and ways of giving support to others.

Stage 5: Examine the role of community service, the business sector and other structures in supporting the welfare and interests of others.

Legal Studies:

Stage 6: Issues of compliance and non-compliance in relation to human rights. The development of changing values and ethical standards. The role of law reform in protecting human rights. The effectiveness of legal and non-legal measures in protecting human rights.

Studies of Religion:

Stage 6: Account for the present religious landscape in Australia in relation to: immigration. Evaluate the importance of interfaith dialogue in multi-faith Australia.

Society and Culture:

Stage 6: Explains continuity and change, and their implications for societies and cultures. Describes cultural diversity and commonality within societies and cultures.

Modern History:

Stage 6: Australia 1945–1983: the nature and impact of immigration. Australia 1945–1983: the impact of foreign policy and changing relations with the wider world. United Nations as Peacekeeper 1946–2001: major challenges facing the international community: racism, refugees, child soldiers, landmines, poverty, gender inequity, war crimes, illiteracy, AIDS. UN as Peacekeeper 1946–2001: role and effectiveness of the

UNDERSTANDING REFUGEES

Presentations for secondary and primary schools and community groups in NSW and Victoria



Learn what it means to be a refugee from people sharing first-hand experience

*"You helped us remember how much the little things count, and the effect we can have."
- feedback from Year 10 student*



Face-to-Face: Understanding Refugees

The Face to Face program is co-presented by a speaker from a refugee background and a representative of the Refugee Council of Australia.

Presentations are linked to the Australian curriculum (see details overleaf).

Presentations are tailored for primary and secondary students, teachers and interested groups, covering:

- who refugees are and where they come from
- facts about refugees worldwide and in Australia
- the conditions refugees face overseas
- Australia's refugee policies

The refugee speakers share personal stories of their journey to safety and give students the opportunity to learn face-to-face about refugees, their experiences and their contributions to Australia.

Incursions can be delivered as a **one-hour interactive presentation** or **two-hour workshop** incorporating small group activities. Both presentations and workshops are brought to life with visual support material.

The presentation package includes a comprehensive **Resource Guide** for teachers containing links to **lesson plans, follow-up activities** and further reading, as well as information on **how to support** and **advocate** for people from refugee backgrounds.

A teacher's view of the program

"The delivery of facts and clarification of terms and the story the refugee told of his struggles and



What students say about Face to Face

"I learned that refugees aren't just faceless masses like the media portrays them. They are individuals and have stories." - High school student

"Through your words, we were able to understand the inequality in our world, though many of us could never comprehend the hardships faced by so many. It made us realise and appreciate how fortunate we are, and put more emphasis on the need for us to accept everyone, from all communities, especially those who are facing the most prejudice. A first-hand account was really effective to make a huge impact on our understanding of a refugee's experience, and was so rich with emotion. You helped us remember how much the little things count, and the effect we can have." - Year 10 student

Your session was the highlight of the semester." - Final year student, Sydney University

"I think that the Refugee Council has put together a wonderful incursion, which allowed me to appreciate things that we take for granted more. The refugee's life story is very traumatising, and I wish him well with his future endeavours." - Year 8 student

Costs of the program

Why we charge for the program

The Refugee Council of Australia is an independent charitable organisation which relies on public donations to survive. We receive no government funding for this program or for our core work of research, advocacy and public education on refugee issues. Each refugee speaker is paid a speaker's fee in recognition of her or his expertise and to cover income lost in making time available to speak.

Standard rates for school presentations

\$600 (+ GST) for a single presentation, \$800 (+ GST) for two presentations on the same day, \$1000 (+ GST) for three presentations. If any school is able to donate funds beyond the standard rate, the funds will be invested by RCOA in the recruitment and training of additional speakers.

Concession rates

As we do not want cost to be a barrier to students hearing from refugee speakers, we offer the following concession rates (subsidised by public donations) to schools or groups with more limited resources: \$300 (+ GST) for a single presentation, \$400 (+ GST) for two presentations on the same day, \$500 (+ GST) for three presentations. One option to reduce costs further is for nearby schools to combine for a group booking on the same day.

Rates for professional development

Presentations to teachers for professional development are charged at \$1000 (+ GST) for a one-hour session, \$1400 (+ GST) for two hours and \$1800 (+ GST) for longer periods.

All rates are negotiable.

Contact us to discuss options

For information and to discuss program costs, please email us at facetoface@refugeecouncil.org.au or call us on (02) 9211 9333.