

Face to Faith *a project of the* Tony Blair Faith Foundation 



# The challenge we face







What's the solution?



W H E R E

D I F F E R E N C E I S

respected

N O T

feared

# What is dialogue? And what are these dialogue skills?

In an encounter with those who might have different opinions, values and beliefs to my own, dialogue is the process by which I come to understand *the other's* lives, values and beliefs better and *others* come to understand my life, values and beliefs.

What dialogue is not...

Dia – through

Logos - speech

# The art of dialogue

Openness to the other (requires reflection on the self; understanding how prejudices are formed; confident in own identity) – first there must be a dialogue with the self..!

How to dialogue effectively:

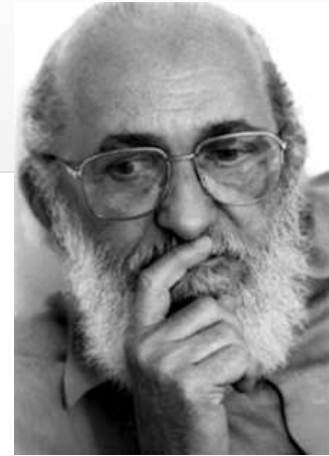
- Deep listening
- Clear explanation/ articulation
- No distractions ( Need to focus and engage directly with ‘the other’)
- Responding (to deepen understanding; asking the right questions; showing empathy; finding similarities and difference)
- Reflecting (what have I learned through this encounter about myself and about the other?)

What have others said about dialogue and education?

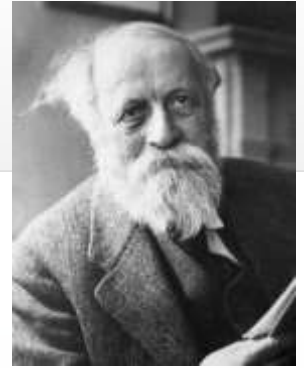


# Paulo Friere

*“The teacher is of course an artist, but being an artist does not mean that he or she can make the profile, can shape the students. What the educator does in teaching is to make it possible for the students to become themselves.”*



# Martin Buber



*“The real struggle is not between East and West, or capitalism and communism, but between education and propaganda.”*

# Fethullah Gulen

*“There should be a chair for everyone within your heart.”*



# What can we learn from Friere, Buber & Gulen?

Friere: not the job of the teacher to fill students up with knowledge but to empower students to lead their own learning; students need to bring their own experiences into their learning.

Buber: shift in relationship between teacher and learner; students must reflect on what shapes their perceptions of others and how to suspend these judgments in favour of openness and empathy.

Gulen: dialogue should be action-orientated; focused towards community building and peace.

# The Dialogue Manifesto



# Questions

What does a school that embraces pluralism and dialogue look and sound like?

What would you see? Displays? Pupil behaviour?

What would you hear? Interactions between staff, students, other members of the school community?

What does a classroom that embraces pluralism and dialogue look like? What does the class look like? How is the seating arranged? What do the students do? What does the teacher do in their classes?

What are the characteristics of a dialogical lesson? A dialogical teacher?

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