

# Lit in Colour

Supporting inclusive reading in schools

## Research on Race in the English Literature Curriculum

### An overview of the scope of work

Penguin and The Runnymede Trust have commissioned new research to better understand the current state of play of English literature education in UK schools.

### The research will focus on:

- Understanding the gaps or absences of teaching of works by and about Black and ethnic minority people
- Better understanding how both teachers and young people feel about the current place of these works in the curriculum
- Reviewing the current resources available to support the teaching of these texts
- Making concrete recommendations for change
- The research will focus on Key Stages 2, 3 and 4 and will focus on England specifically

### The research team

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### Methodology

- Literature review of existing published literature in this space
- Understanding patterns of text choice at GCSE from Awarding Bodies to establish not just the available choices, but the actual choices
- Survey of teachers and school librarians, ensuring we're capturing feedback from both schools with a racially diverse student and

teacher population, and schools where there is lower racial diversity

- Review of commercial and non-commercial resources available to support the teaching of texts by ethnic minority writers and/or which deal with issues of race
- Qualitative and quantitative research with young people
- Consultations with a sample of Initial Teacher Education tutors (PGCE, PGDE, SCITT) to gather their understandings on the above questions
- Gathering data on the current racial profile of English teachers in the UK
- Incorporating best practice case studies from teachers on the ground

### Timings

The research will begin in October 2020 and will aim to be completed by June 2021.

### Interested in playing a part?

We are keen to hear from all teachers of English in primary and secondary schools in the UK and their experiences of teaching diverse texts, and what they need to support them in doing so in the future. To complete this live survey please visit: <https://oxford.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/englishdiversity>

This survey is an independent one, but the results will contribute to the Lit in Colour report.

We'd also be delighted to hear from organisations or individuals working in this space who are interested in sharing their thoughts by emailing [litincolour@runnymedetrust.org](mailto:litincolour@runnymedetrust.org)