



International Students' Digital Experience (ISDX)

Exploring the Experiences of International Students in UK HE Sector



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Social justice, Equality, Inclusion, Social mobility



Challenges Faced by GEM* Students in HE

- Cultural shock / cultural adjustment/ food/ Weather/Language
- Different education systems and assessment standards for international students
- Racism and discrimination
- Technology-related challenges
- Financial difficulties
- Child care
- Deficit model
- Imposter syndrome
- Accommodation/visa/late resumption
- Access to university services/societies
- Physical and Mental health issues
- Academic misconduct referrals
- Effects of long commuting
- Non-inclusive curriculum



1. **Dealing with classroom and accommodation segregation**
2. Increase the number of Black staff members and role models on campus
3. **Decolonise your curriculum**
4. Create a system for reporting discriminatory and racist behaviour
5. Work towards achieving a Race Equality Charter award
6. **Provide funding for race-related research**
7. **Develop a support scheme for international students**
8. **Promote difficult conversations at all levels**
9. Implement reciprocal mentoring schemes
10. **Celebrate diversity**



Ten Actions Lecturers can take to boost Black Students' Belonging

1. **Educate yourselves on race-related issues, history and culture**
2. Make an effort to pronounce black students' names
3. **Engage in difficult conversations with black students about life experiences and belonging**
4. **Dispute the idea that black students are a monolithic group**
5. Promote inter-racial dialogue in student groups
6. Provide informal settings where black students can exchange ideas
7. Do not view black students as having a deficit
8. Identify and develop each student's gifts and potential, regardless of race or background
9. Consider anonymous marking
10. Ensure your curricula are inclusive and represent black experiences positively





Thank you for listening

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