

It is science week and for school assembly you and a colleague have been asked to give a presentation on 'famous' scientists.

Your colleague chooses Charles Darwin, Albert Einstein, Issac Newton and Stephen Hawking.

>> What is the bias here?

>> How would you address this?



It is the annual career assembly, students' family members are asked to volunteer to talk about their jobs. Nine parents offer their time but there is only space for five sessions.

>> **Who do you choose and why?**

Mr Peter Kendall
(Lawyer)

Dr Raj Choudary
(Surgeon)

Professor Pippa Chapman
(Biogeochemist)

Mrs Jackie Smith
(CEO of a national hotel
group)

Mrs Jamila Verma
(Accountant)

Mr Damian Tyler
(Florist)

Ms Udi Atewologun
(Lab Technician)

Mr Shaun Simpson
(Hair stylist)

Miss Hayley-Jean Baptiste
(Veterinary nurse)

Your attention is drawn to a group of children in class who are disrupting other groups from working by pushing each other, using raised voices and generally messing about instead of working.

You have already had to tell them twice. The focus of attention of the group is Michael, the only Black boy in the group who is fairly new to the school.

>> How might our biases impact on how we interpret this situation and how we deal with Michael?



Jackie, a Teaching Assistant, notices that the class teacher Mrs Lester, regularly asks the girls to tidy up the pencils and put them away. The boys are asked to do most of any moving of chairs and setting up equipment.

>> Is there a bias here?

>> If so, how does she raise it with Mrs Lester?



Year 5 teacher Ms Parrish is asked a question on ICT by a small group of boys, which she doesn't know the answer to.

Mr Ahmed is an NQT who has recently started in the school. Ms Parrish suggests they; "Ask Mr Ahmed, he is sure to know".

>> Discuss this situation.

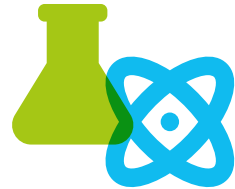
>> Why might Ms Parrish assume Mr Ahmed would know?



Your Year 4 students have the chance to enter a project into the Great Science Share Event. Students have to work in groups of three to design an investigation.

Groups quickly form into ‘friendship’ groups. You mix the groups up but notice in all but one that group boys take the lead in designing and talking about the experiment.

>> **What action might you take?**



A teacher is talking about different careers in science using celebrities to get the students' attention.

She shows images of TV doctor Raj Singh, inventor Elon Musk, anthropologist Alice Roberts, entrepreneur James Dyson, astronaut Tim Peake, physicist Brian Cox and TV presenter Sir David Attenborough.

>> Discuss the examples

>> Which 7 celebrities would you choose?



Year 5 are discussing coding in class. The conversation is dominated by Joshua, Mason and Vasu talking about their Lego boost robots. Lily and Mira are trying to participate, mentioning that Mira has a Harry Potter wand coding kit at home. This is ignored by the boys.

>> What might you do?



The parents and carers group propose that they will run an after school club capitalising on the interest in baking; 'Bake-Off Club'. They draw up a poster to advertise the club showing girls and a mother in the kitchen making cupcakes.

>> How might you address this with the parents, who argue it reflects the reality at home?



Teachers are discussing students in relation to new class groups for the new academic year. A class teacher makes comments about a child they have had this year to the teacher for next year, saying how they are unlikely to reach a particular standard in science.

- >> Does this scenario suggest any type of bias?
- >> How might you address this?



A class visit is planned to a local technology company. A letter is received from the host detailing the visit and the staff involved in demonstrations, who are all men.

Discuss this situation.

- >> Is this a problem? Are there ways to ensure this doesn't reinforce male gender stereotype?**
- >> How could you address this for next years visit?**



The school is recruiting for a Teaching Assistant. There is one male applicant, Jason, a man in his 30's with a background in business finance.

In discussion around the table during shortlisting, comments are made and questions are asked about his motivation to want to work with children, and the fact the TA salary won't probably support a family.

>> How might you challenge these comments?

