

Knowledge Organiser – Immigration Since 1948 [Year 5 Summer 2 2022]

What was Britain like in 1948?

- A quarter of British homes had **no electricity**.
- People often lived in the same town all their lives, near their families.
- There were often more than three children in every family.
- One third of the British population went to the **cinema** at least once a week.



- There were only 14,500 television sets in the whole country and there was only one channel (BBC). Hardly any homes had a **television**.
- Most families listened to the **wireless** (radio) for their entertainment.
- Many homes did not have a **telephone** or an indoor **toilet**.
- **Cooking** was done from scratch using produce grown locally. You could only buy items that were

in season and most of what you bought was made or grown in the UK.

- There were only just over a million **cars** on Britain's roads. Petrol rationing remained until 1954. For most people, this made the car an unaffordable luxury. Most people used **public transport** to get around.
- **Air travel** was mainly for the rich. To go abroad, most people travelled by ship.
- The average weekly wage was £3 18s (£3.90). Now it is about £400.

Where did immigrants come from?

After the war, many immigrants came to Britain from the former colonies of the **British Empire**. They came to **escape poverty** or problems at home and were originally **welcomed** because of their contributions to the war effort.



- In 1948, the *Empire Windrush* brought the first immigrants from **Jamaica**.
- In the 1960s, many Indians and Pakistanis came to work in the **textile mills** of Yorkshire and Lancashire.
- In 1968, Kenyan Asians came to Britain when they were **expelled** from Kenya.
- In 1972, Ugandan Asians came to Britain when they were expelled from Uganda.

- The number of non-white British people rose from 400,000 in 1961, to 9.1 million in 2011.

What was The Windrush?



- The Windrush was an old German boat that was **captured** during World War Two by the British
- In 1948 the Windrush went to Australia to pick up immigrants and then went on to Jamaica and collected almost 500 **passengers** bound for England
- The passengers had a wide **variety of skills** to offer. There were cleaners, mechanics, carpenters, former RAF airmen, and lots of other jobs that were needed in Britain.



- Many of these passengers **settled** in the area of Brixton, in London, which led to large Caribbean

communities who have contributed to life in Britain ever since.

- Caribbean immigrants have become a vital part of British society and, in the process, transformed important aspects of British life.

Migration to the UK from Punjab, India

The ties between the British and the Punjab region of India go back a long way. From 1857 onwards many Punjabis served in the British army. Sikh soldiers, who served in the army, were often sent to other colonies of the British Empire, and saw active service in both world wars. There is a memorial in Sussex which honours the Sikh soldiers who died in WWI.

Workers came from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and other countries.

They came for different reasons - to escape civil war, to seek better opportunities and to join family members already settled here. In spite of facing discrimination in Britain, these immigrants have settled in the UK, and through their struggles for workers' rights and civil rights many have contributed to the life of the UK.

Immigration had a huge effect on the United Kingdom:

- Immigrant groups formed strong communities, e.g. Chinatowns in various cities like in Manchester where it is a cultural icon. Southall in west London has a large and thriving south Asian population.
- Immigrant groups have brought specialist knowledge to Britain. Doctors and scientists work in British hospitals and universities. Immigrants have helped work shortages in the textile mills, and work in seasonal industries such as farming.
- In 1965, 1986 and 1976 the government passed Race Relations Acts to prevent racial discrimination.
- In 2011, about 14 per cent of the population belonged to an ethnic minority.
- Groups such as the British National Party and the English Defence League formed to try to stop immigration.
- Some areas of the UK, such as Newham in East London, now have a higher number of non-white people than white people.
- Different religions are also becoming more widespread.



Home Learning Project –

Hand in on Tuesday 7th June

Choose one:

1. Although most immigrants came to the UK after World War 2, there were already some black communities in the UK. **Research Britain's first black community in Elizabethan London.** Write a report [choose your subheadings - must be at least one page]
2. The following people were immigrants to the UK:
 - a. Dame Karlene Davis
 - b. Learie Constantine
 - c. Noor Inayat KhanWrite a biography [Think about subheadings. Write at least one page]
3. Did somebody in your family come to live in the UK from a different country? Talk to them about where they came from, when they came, what it was like in the UK. Write an interview. [Set it out like a play script. [Write at least one page.]