

Black History Matters

This year marks the 30th anniversary of Black History month in the UK, with pioneers such as Linda Bellos OBE, Akyaaba Addai-Sebo and Ansell Wong at the helm of its creation. The original idea came from the concern that black children in Britain knew very little about the positive achievements of black people & black history, but also the lack of care black children who were care-experienced were receiving.

This year's theme, 'Reclaiming Narratives' gives us an opportunity to correct historical inaccuracies, showcase untold stories and honour unsung heroes. In this session we talk about the experience of a black young woman who grew up in a system that provided 'care', and how hope, resilience and identity provided the foundation for healing and transformation.

Session Outline

- The complexities of black heritage - intersectionality & representation.
- Uniqueness & ways in which we can celebrate & appreciate talent, effort, achievement and skills
- Understanding allyship and its importance in fostering equality and equity
- The importance of positive role models for identity formation
- Creating safe spaces for staff teams which allow for positive change

Session Includes

- Lots of interaction and an opportunity to hear a powerful, unique story
- A safe space with an opportunity to ask questions, without judgement
- Signposting to resources to support organisational development

Facilitator: Paris Bartholomew



Paris is a speaker, writer and trainer with a compelling and inspiring life story. She entered the care system at a young age due to her mother's imprisonment, facing multiple placements and significant challenges, which she overcame to become a successful educator and advocate. She holds an MA in Philosophy and Psychology and has worked as a teacher and lecturer in Health, Social Care, and Psychology.

Paris has been nominated for several awards, including the Positive Role Model Award for Race, Religion, and Faith at the National Diversity Awards and the CPD Trainer of the Year. She is passionate about helping vulnerable people reach their potential and often collaborates with charities and organizations to promote well-being and inclusivity.