



Using music to create
a more inclusive society

What is Electric Umbrella?

Where Music Unites People and
Creates a More Inclusive Society



Watch the video...



Let's discuss...

- What does Electric Umbrella use to **help people express themselves?**
- Why do you think it's important for someone to feel **seen, heard and valued?**
- Do you think **it's harder for some people in society to feel like this?** If so, why?
- What did Tom mean when he said, **"You can change the piano, not the pianist"?**



William is a member of Electric Umbrella

This video tells his story:



William, pictured on BGT.

Let's discuss...

Pair up and write your ideas on your worksheet and then share them with the group:

- What **challenges** do you think William might face in order to do what he loves (not just physical challenges)?
- Do you think people might make **assumptions** about William because of his disabilities? Give examples
- **How** does **Electric Umbrella help** William, and **why is it important?**
- William performed on **Britain's Got Talent** with Electric Umbrella. **Why was it important** for them to appear on a **primetime TV show?**



Who am I and who are you?

Pair up and use your worksheet:

- **Write down 8 things that make “you, you”** (examples - hobbies, number of siblings, favourite sports team/ musical artist/ food/religion/cultural heritage...)
- **Compare your list with your partner and discuss with the group:** Are there any differences? Any similarities? Which do you think are the most important or interesting?
- Why do you think it's **important to find out about what makes us different, as well as what makes us similar?**



At Electric Umbrella, we believe:

- At Electric Umbrella, we believe that **difference is to be acknowledged and celebrated.**
- Yes, we're all humans, but we're all **individuals** too.
- Every individual deserves to be treated with **kindness and respect.**
- **Prejudice** (making unfair assumptions and judgements about someone based on their race, culture, religion, gender identity, disability, sexual orientation) is **born from fear and ignorance** surrounding those that seem different to us.



Why is it important to celebrate difference?

- Our Electric Umbrella member, **Gavin**, works at a supermarket. He was **targeted by a group of teenagers and badly beaten up, because of his disability.**
- Members of the learning disabled and neurodiverse community are often the **victims of abuse and crimes, just for being themselves.**
- No-one should have to face violence, intimidation or unfair treatment just because they are **seen to be “different”.**



Watch Gavin's Story...

Trigger warning: this video is a first hand account of Gavin's experience of getting beaten up.



“It’s Not a Crime to be Different!”

- Following Gavin’s experience, we wrote the song, “It’s not a crime to be different”, with **Hertfordshire Constabulary**, as part of the **National Hate Crime Awareness Week Campaign**.
- The official video features **Hate Crime Officers** alongside members of the **Electric Umbrella community**.



Watch the video...



Exploring the lyrics...

Using your worksheet:

- **Underline** the lyrics that name different **characteristics that may lead to a person experiencing hatred or prejudice.**
- **Circle** the lyrics that explain **what you should do if you experience, or witness, prejudicial language or behaviour.**
- Highlight what you think are the **most powerful lyrics** and make a note of **why** you think that.



What can we do to make our community more welcoming and inclusive? Be **BRAVE.**

Be tolerant and accepting of others.

Report hate incidents and hate crimes.

Advocate for those who may find it harder to speak up.

Voice concerns about the use of prejudicial language or behaviour in your school.

Educate yourself, and others around you, about diversity and acceptance





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