



Reference number: 01/2011

Date: 20 January 2011

# Press Notice

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## Supreme Court hosts launch of innovative student project seeking a 'Big Voice'

More than forty young people drawn from a diverse range of London schools and colleges will tonight gather at the Supreme Court to mark the beginning of their involvement in an innovative student-led project exploring the legal systems of the United Kingdom and post-apartheid South Africa.

Volunteers from City Law School are co-ordinating *Big Voice 2011*, a year-long programme of regular evening sessions hosted by the Supreme Court and a number of London colleges. Participants will be addressed by guest speakers from the legal world who will introduce a range of legal structures and processes in the jurisdictions covered by the project, and also guide them in beginning to explore broader themes such as access to the law and public perception of the judiciary.

One of the planned outcomes of the programme is a report focusing on practical steps identified by the students which they believe could lead to a greater sense of engagement among non-lawyers with the legal systems which serve and protect them.

A-level students from Hackney Community College, Quintin Kynaston school in St John's Wood, City and Islington College, and St Dominic's Sixth Form college in Harrow were invited to apply to take part in the project, funding for which is being sought by the volunteer organisers. The Supreme Court is supporting the project through practical assistance, as part of its wider programme of educational activities.

Jenny Rowe, Chief Executive of the Supreme Court, said: "We have been impressed with the effort and initiative that the young lawyers have put into setting up this innovative project. We are pleased to be able to offer some practical support to enable students from across the capital to engage with different perspectives on how the legal system is viewed by people in different parts of the world."

**Ends**

**The Supreme Court of the United Kingdom**

Parliament Square London SW1P 3BD T: 020 7960 1886/1887 F: 020 7960 1901 [www.supremecourt.gov.uk](http://www.supremecourt.gov.uk)

**UKSC contacts:**

Sian Lewis

Tel: 020 7960 1886

sian.lewis@supremecourt.gsi.gov.uk

Ben Wilson

Tel: 020 7960 1887

ben.wilson@supremecourt.gsi.gov.uk

**Project contact:**

Jennifer Blair

Tel: 078 3497 5406

BigVoice2011@gmail.com