



## Activity 1

### Aim(s)

- To look at courage in a real life context.
- To explore how people use different types of courage in different situations.

### Resources

- Pen and paper. **OPTIONAL**
- Internet connection to watch videos. **OPTIONAL**

## Delivery Guide



The initial part of this activity is best delivered as a whole group discussion. You could then break into small groups to discuss the different types of courage. The whole activity can be delivered as a 1-2-1 activity.

See how many of the young people know who Eddie Izzard is. Ask what he is known for. Some answers may include:

- Doing stand-up comedy in different languages (he performs comedy shows in German, French, Spanish, and Arabic, as well as English).
- His sports challenges (he has completed 27 marathons in 27 days, as well as run around the circumference of the UK which works out as 43 marathons in 51 days).
- Acting (he has been in films including The Avengers, My Super Ex-Girlfriend, Oceans 12 and Oceans 13, as well as in plays in the West End and Broadway).
- Saying he would stand for London Mayor in 2020.
- Wearing heels and nail varnish.

Some of the following videos may be helpful:

**Eddie Izzard talking about coming out as transgender:**

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=ARKUJloeZpw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ARKUJloeZpw)

**Eddie Izzard's run round the UK:**

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJegisd3A90](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJegisd3A90)

**Eddie Izzard taking a lap of honour around Crystal Palace home ground:**

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=EnN9dA3I52Q](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EnN9dA3I52Q)

Ask the young people whether Eddie Izzard uses courage in his life and if so, in what situations? What kind of courage does he use (for instance: moral, physical, emotional)? Are there any other virtues he uses?

Some prompt questions could be:

- In the video about him coming out as transgender, what virtues does he talk about?
- Does the fact he came out 31 years ago mean he was more courageous? Given that it was a different moral landscape and people may not have been so understanding.
- How was it when he came out? Was it difficult?

Give the young people some time in small groups or pairs to discuss and note down the different types of courage he has shown in his life.

## Points to highlight

- Showing emotional courage can be as difficult as physical courage.
- We generally need to show a range of different types of courage in our life.
- It takes courage to be yourself.



## Extension Activities

This activity extends the idea of using courage to be true to yourself, even when that's difficult or might be challenged by other people, and the courage to use wisdom to make the right decision.

### Part 1

Introduce the young people to the below scenario. This could be done verbally, written on a flipchart, or given out to the young people on scenario cards.

*A transgender boy aged 14 believes that his time has come to express himself as a girl. He has gone to speak to the Headteacher of his school to tell him that when he returns in September he will return as a girl.*

*What should the Headteacher do?*

Read through the scenario and ensure they all understand the terms. Ask for their initial responses. What do they think the Headteacher should do?

They will have to consider:

- Current laws that try to prevent discrimination against people.
- The best action for the young person.
- The attitudes of other parents.
- The attitudes of other students.

- The practical implications:
  - PE and changing facilities
  - Toilets
  - The student being known by a different name.

In the position of the Headteacher, what would they do?

### Part 2

Ask the young people to identify who in this situation is showing courage.

Possible answers could be:

- The young boy speaking to the Headteacher and choosing to come out as transgender while at school.
- The Headteacher standing up to parents who are worried about it.
- Other students or parents overcoming their initial feelings and attitudes and facing a new situation.

## Points to highlight

- It takes courage to be who you are and express yourself.
- It takes courage to face new situations.
- It takes courage and wisdom to show leadership and stand up for what you think is right.



## Links to Other Areas of the Curriculum

### British Values:

Both activities are opportunities to explore British Values such as tolerance.

### Citizenship:

Both activities are opportunities to explore and develop the young people's active roles as citizens.

