

Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School

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Tuesday 13th February 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are Year 11 students doing our Citizenship Take Action Project. As fast fashion is getting more popular, the amount of clothing waste is increasing. Fast fashion is relatively cheap, which leads people to buy and throw away clothes regularly. Resulting in landfills overflowing with discarded clothes. More than 30% of unwanted clothing goes to landfills In 2018, around 350,000 tonnes of clothing was sent to landfill. Most of these are due to fast fashion brands. They have an enormous environmental footprint during its production and disposal.

The majority of factories are located in low income countries and exploit young people (primarily females). 80% of the 75 million workers are between the ages 18-24 and are paid well below the national minimum wage.

Garment workers in fast fashion factories work in dangerous environments for long hours and get paid for low wages. Even workers that work for fast fashion brands in developed countries get paid lower than the minimum wage. For example, UK fast fashion garment workers get paid as little as £3 an hour.

To encourage students to reuse and recycle clothes, we are holding an event on Friday 8th March during lunch time at the main hall. We kindly ask pupils to donate clothes every Thursday in Room 121 until Thursday 7th March. Please label the bag of clothes as "Clothing Donations" with the student's name and form.

All donations (including the money made and leftover clothes) will be donated to charities to support their work. We welcome pupils to contribute to our event.

If you have any questions please email our teacher Mrs Jackson at majckson@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk .

Kind regards,

The Year 11 GCSE Citizenship Fast Fashion Team

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