



HISTORIC ROYAL PALACES

**SECONDARY**  
**CORONATION:**  
**VALUES AND SYMBOLS**  
EXTENSION ACTIVITY



**SPACE TO STIR AND BE STIRRED**

TOWER OF LONDON • HAMPTON COURT PALACE • BANQUETING HOUSE  
KENSINGTON PALACE • KEW PALACE • HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE AND GARDENS



This activity links to the **Values and Symbols** lesson plan and aims to support students as they create a 'Proclamation for a new King'.

A proclamation is an official announcement about something very important. On 10th September 2022, the new King Charles III was proclaimed King in a ceremony held at St. James' Palace. After the official proclamation, King Charles made a proclamation speech in which he formally told the nation that the Queen had died and acknowledged his role as the new monarch.

In his speech, King Charles III talked about some of the values his mother, Queen Elizabeth II, had demonstrated, and committed to following her example as he represents Great Britain and the Commonwealth:

“To all of us as a family, as to this kingdom and the wider family of nations of which it is a part, my mother gave an example of lifelong love and of selfless service. My mother’s reign was unequalled in its duration, its dedication and its devotion. Even as we grieve, we give thanks for this most faithful life.

“I am deeply aware of this great inheritance and of the duties and heavy responsibilities of sovereignty which have now passed to me. In taking up these responsibilities, I shall strive to follow the inspiring example I have been set in upholding constitutional government and to seek the peace, harmony and prosperity of the peoples of these Islands and of the Commonwealth Realms and territories throughout the world.”

## ACTIVITY

This activity can be undertaken individually, in pairs or in groups.

Before starting this activity, you might find it useful to discuss with your students their understanding of the term 'community'. You might like to introduce it in terms of family, friends and neighbours: people who live, work or play together are a type of community. They often share similar ideas and may go to the same school.

Use the slide presentation to help your students to think about the following questions:

- How is Britain today different to Britain in 1953?
- What challenges is Britain facing? What qualities does Britain need to overcome these challenges?
- What causes are important to you and your community? What values are important to these causes?
- How would you like Britain to be thought of by people in other countries? What are British values today?

Examples of challenges facing Britain might include:

- Climate change
- Inequality
- Education
- Health and wellbeing
- Technological development



## WRITING A PROCLAMATION

A proclamation is a speech, but yours could take all sorts of forms. It could be:

- A speech transcript
- A poster
- A list of bullet points
- A poem
- A newspaper article
- A song

### Step 1:

Identify five key causes which you think are important to people and communities in Britain. These might include some of the themes you explored whilst learning about the reign of Queen Elizabeth II, or you might prefer to identify new themes from the causes and world events which are important to you.

### Step 2:

What values or qualities might King Charles III wish to demonstrate in order to represent Britain in these areas? For example, to work towards a more equal world, Britain needs to show **respect** and **tolerance**.

### Step 3:

Can you think of any ways in which King Charles III might seek to demonstrate these values?

### Step 4:

Can you combine your ideas from Steps 2 and 3 to begin writing your proclamation? Try to include 5-10 British values that underpin what it is to be British in a country where we celebrate our diversity and value community.