

# MULTIPLE IDENTITIES

## ~ MULTIPLE CONNECTONS

Where do I identify with?		People and/or places
Connection	People and/or places	
My immediate family lives in	Handsworth	
My grandparents live in	Pakistan	London
Other relatives live in	Smethwick	Sutton Coldfield
Friends of the family live in	Balsall Heath	
I was born in	Birmingham	
I have lived before in	Birmingham	
My school is in	Hamstead, Birmingham	
My local shops are in	Handsworth	
I do food shopping in	Soho Rd, Handsworth	Merry Hill, Dudley
I do other shopping in	B'ham City Centre	Italy
The food I like comes from	Pakistan/ India	
My water is supplied by	Severn Trent	
My rubbish goes to	Don't know	Central ITV / Sky
My TV is from	BBC - London	Radio 1, London
My radio is from	Heart FM, Birmingham	Independent
I buy magazines/newspapers	Evening Mail, B'ham	Cinema, B'ham
The recreation facilities I use	Handsworth Park	Alton Towers
For days out I go to	Cannock Chase	
For weekends away I go to		London/ relatives
For holidays in UK I go to	Cornwall	France
For other holidays I go to	Pakistan	M6
Major roads I regularly use are	A41	
I use buses to get to	Birmingham	
I use trains to get to	London	
The football team I support is		
Other sporting team	Clare Short	
The MP who represents me is	Handsworth	
The locality I live in is	Birmingham	
The county I live in is	West Midlands	
The region I live in is	UK	
The country I live in is	Europe	
The continent I live in is		
Other		
Other		
Other		

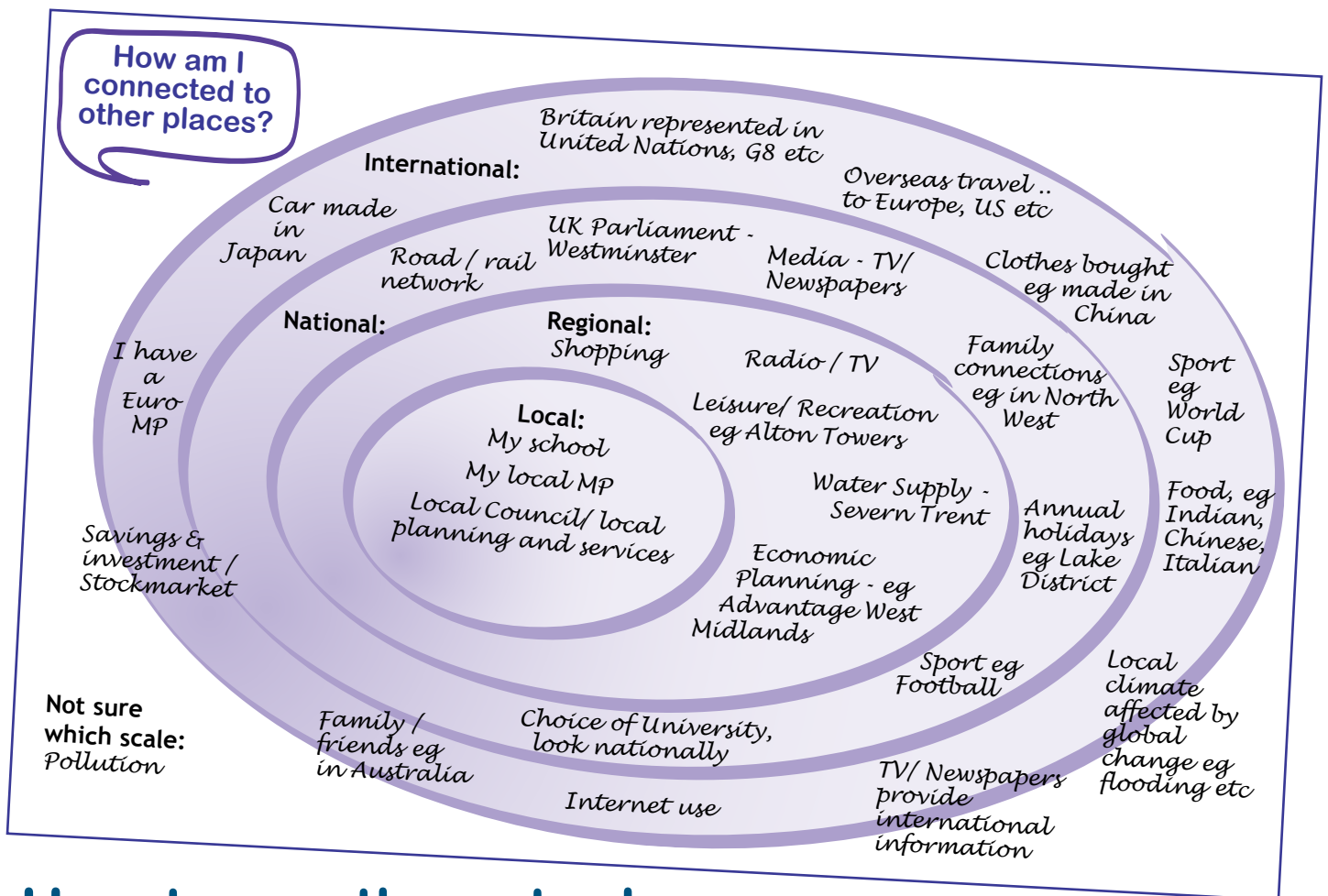
## Multiple connections

How many times do we use places to start conversations with people we don't know? We try to establish a connection with the person we are talking to. Part of our identity is defined by the connections we have with other people. We all have multiple connections with different people in a variety of places. This helps us to shape our individual identity. It may be in our name, which connects us to other parts of the world. It may be where our relatives live. It may be through the friendships we have made through our lives. It may be through the purchases we make or the food we like. Identity is partly a web of connections, as can be seen in the responses by two different people to the open question 'Where do I identify with?'

Where do I identify with?		People and/or places
Connection	People and/or places	
My immediate family lives in	Marchington	
My grandparents live in	Uttoxeter	London
Other relatives live in	Devon	
Friends of the family live in	Matlock	
I was born in	Derby	
I have lived before in	Derby	
My school is in	Uttoxeter	
My local shops are in	Village post office	
I do food shopping in	Tesco Uttoxeter	Nottingham
I do other shopping in	Derby	China
The food I like comes from	Italy	
My water is supplied by	Severn Trent	
My rubbish goes to	East Staffordshire District	London
My TV is from	Midlands/ Birmingham	London
My radio is from	Radio 1	London
I buy magazines/newspapers	Bliss Cosmo Girl	
The recreation facilities I use	Leisure centre Uttoxeter	
For days out I go to	Alton Towers	
For weekends away I go to	Not really	
For holidays in UK I go to	Wales	Italy
For other holidays I go to	Spain	A515
Major roads I regularly use are	A50	Burton
I use buses to get to	Uttoxeter	Stoke
I use trains to get to	Nottingham	
The football team I support is	Liverpool	
Other sporting team		
The MP who represents me is	Don't know	
The locality I live in is	Dove Valley	
The county I live in is	Staffordshire	
The region I live in is	The Midlands	
The country I live in is	UK	
The continent I live in is	Europe	
Other		
Other		
Other		

## Multiple identities

In all places, there are people with a multiplicity of identities, indeed you would be surprised if there were not. No community is homogeneous - we all have global connections and it is interesting to discover them. A global approach to citizenship is about recognizing and celebrating these connections, which are so much part of our daily life. But it is also about increasing our understanding of the links and interrelationships we have across the West Midlands as well as the whole world.



## How to use these tools

### Objectives

- ❑ to illustrate the variety of connections that we have with other places;
- ❑ to explore 'multiple identities' that all people have.

There are several approaches that could be adopted or adapted.

### Suggested procedure

- ❑ Young people make a silent response to the form, 'Where do I identify with?'
- ❑ They then consider how far these connections are from home, using the diagram 'How am I connected?'
- ❑ They can then talk to a neighbour to discover if they have any places/ connections in common. When a connection has been established, they put a ring around it.
- ❑ Maps of the region, UK, Europe and the World can be used to look at these connections.

### Other suggestions

- ❑ Connection snap - everyone writes one of their own connecting places on each of 10 cards. Students are combined in groups of 4-5, and the 40-50 cards are shuffled and dealt out. There is a snap each time two matching place names come up.
- ❑ Woolly thinking - different colour wools are then used to make connections between people and their connecting places to make a web.