

9. GB Club – Is our school safe and welcoming?

Title of session:	<i>Is our school safe and welcoming? This episode summarises the previous sessions on violence and discrimination and asks students to reflect on whether they think their school is safe and welcoming and what they can do to improve things.</i>
Length of recording:	40 mins
Actors:	2 hosts only
Sound effects (SFX):	Intro music, transitional music, hands clapping, people cheering

Content	
Intro:	'Girls and Boys Club Theme Song' (for 1 min)
Awa:	Hello everyone! This is me again, Awanatu, your host for the Girls' and Boy's club this week! This is a very special week to be at the club and I am joined by my good old friend Mohammed! As always!!!
Mohamed:	Hello everyone! Yes, I am back, I am back with you... You guys already know me! I am Mohammed and thanks for joining our Girls' and Boys' Club this week. We're very glad that you're here!
Awa:	Now, Mohamed and I are both part of the Leh Wi Lan programme sponsored by UK Aid.
Mohamed:	And Leh Wi Lan supports the Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education to deliver Free Quality School Education to <i>all</i> students in Sierra Leone.
SFX:	<i>Hands clapping, people cheering</i>
Mohammed:	Let us quickly remind ourselves that there are club rules to follow here today! Let me hear you say it! R-E-A-L! Time to keep it REAL! R is for Respect. E is for Equal participation. A is for Ask questions. L is for languages! The Languages of the club are English and Krio.
Awa:	Exactly.
Mohamed:	So, when we follow the club rules, we're keeping it REAL.
SFX:	<i>Keeping it real song</i>
Awanatu:	Now Girls and Boys... today we have a recap session of the past couple of weeks. Over the past seven Girls' and Boys' sessions we have talked about many, many topics relating to the safety of girls and boys at school.
Mohammed:	Exactly, we learned about School Related Gender Based Violence, and how to reduce and report <i>all</i> violence, whether that is physical, psychological or sexual. We also learned about gender and disability discrimination and that no student, no matter what their gender or their

ability, should be treated poorly or unfairly.

Awanatu: That's right. We all know that students and teachers should work together to make their school a SAFE school. So today we will think back about what we have learned and come up with ideas to make sure our school can be safe.

Awa: Girls and boys, are you ready to start today's session? If so, say 'yes!'

SFX: *A group of people shouting 'yes!' but at a quiet/low mixing level. We want to give students an idea of what they should be shouting.*

Awa: I couldn't hear you!

SFX: *People shouting 'yes!' but at a quiet/low mixing level*

Awa: Okay, let's get started!

SFX: Transition music

Mohammed: We are going to start by thinking back over the last few sessions. What have we learned about a safe school? What does it mean to say our school is a safe school? Awanatu and I will take turns to think back about the lessons we learned during each session.

Awanatu: We are going to ask all students to make notes of what we are saying. The club leader can also make some notes on the chalkboard so you can all have a good idea about what a safe school is.

Mohammed: So, let's start....Awanatu name one thing you know about a safe school. What is a safe school?

Awanatu: Uhhmm, I would say a safe school is a school where teachers and students do not use violence against each other. Teachers do not give harsh and harmful punishment and students do not behave violently towards each other or towards teachers.

Mohammed: I agree. A school must be free from violence. Students should not have to feel afraid to go to school. And violence can take many forms, right Awanatu?

Awanatu: You are right, violence can be physical like kicking, beating, scratching, pushing and so on. Can you remember the other types of violence Mohammed?

Mohammed: I can! We learnt about psychological violence which includes calling names, swearing, being rude and screaming and so on.

Awanatu: Exactly. How can people feel safe and welcome if you do those things? Now Mohammed, what else can you say about a safe school?

Mohammed: I will say a safe school is where there is no sexual violence. That means there is no 'sex for grades', which means that teachers do not push to have any relations with students. And there is no sexual harassment, which means that students or teachers do not give unwanted sexual attention and always treat each other with respect.

Awanatu: Yes, good one! Students, you cannot feel safe at school if the teacher is pushing to have sexual relations with you. School can feel very, very unsafe if a teacher is tricking you to have sex for grades. Remember, the age of consent in Sierra Leone is 18 years old. So any time a teacher is trying to have sex with a student, the teacher is breaking the law!

Mohammed:	Yes, and what I said about students respecting each other and the teachers, it is also not fine for our girls if the boys are not respecting their privacy and their bodies. Let's make sure all girls and boys can go to school without getting sexually harassed at the school! Now Awanatu, it is your turn again. What can you say about a safe school?
Awanatu:	Alright... let me see... yes... A safe school is where there is no discrimination against girls and boys and where any student with a difficulty is being welcomed and supported.
Mohammed:	Yes, perfect! No one should be treated badly. Everyone should receive equal and fair treatment.
Awanatu:	It should not be allowed to discriminate against girls or anyone with a disability or difficulty in the school.
Mohammed:	I have one final one....
Awanatu:	Tell me!
Mohammed:	A safe school is a place where do not call each other any bad names. We should only give compliments and not bully each other with our words.
Awanatu:	Absolutely! The rule should be: "If you cannot say something nice, just keep quiet!"
Mohammed:	That is a good rule!
Awanatu:	Now students, we will do a few activities today to help you think about your school. How safe is your school? Do all students feel safe going to school? Are some students feeling less safe? What should be improved in your school to make it safer?
Mohammed:	The first activity we will do is to think about our school grounds. We will use Padi-Padi time to talk with our partner about our school grounds and school buildings. Think about the classrooms, do you feel safe or unsafe in the classrooms?
Awa:	Maybe you feel safe in the classroom of one teacher, but unsafe in the classroom of another teacher. Discuss with your partner. Why is that?
Mohamed:	Think about the girls and boys spaces in the school. Does your school have sanitary facilities like toilets? Do students make use of a place away from the school if they need to relieve themselves? How do you feel when you go to the toilets or to a place away from school? Do you feel safe? Discuss with your partner.
Awa:	Think about the school buildings. Are there some buildings students like to hide behind to do things that make you unsafe? Like a place students go if they want to fight? Think about all the spaces of your school and discuss them with your partner.
Mohamed:	Do you remember how padi padi works? Now let's go, please "Pick your Partner", we will have four minutes of Padi-Padi time to discuss which places in your school feel safe and which places do not feel safe – think about the classrooms, the toilets, and other buildings in the school grounds. Padi Padi starts now...You have 4 minutes...
SFX:	Background activity music for 2 minutes
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 2 minutes left!

SFX:	Background activity music for 1 minute
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 1 minute left!
SFX:	Background activity music for 50 seconds
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 10 seconds left! We will start our countdown now. 10...9...8...7...6...5...4...3...2...1! Okay stop your Padi-Padi!
SFX:	<i>Cheering and clapping</i>
Awanatu:	Ok, so now you've had time to talk about the different places in and around your school grounds. Where do you feel safe? And where do you feel unsafe?
Mohammed:	We will now use Group Talk to hear from the different groups about the places where students feel safe and the places where students feel unsafe. Club leaders, please draw two columns on the chalk board. Please write the word 'SAFE' at the top of one column and write 'UNSAFE' at the top of the other column.
Awa:	Then the other club leader should point to each pair to hear from them where they feel safe and where they feel unsafe. The club leader at the board should write the names of different places on the chalkboard.
Mohamed:	If a group mentions a place that was mentioned before, there is no need to write it down again. But keep in mind that the same place - like the toilets - can be listed in both the SAFE column and in the UNSAFE column. As some students might feel unsafe in the same place that others feel safe.
Awa:	Great, club leaders, are you ready for Group Talk? Remember you have four minutes for Group Talk. The background music will come on and I'll let you know when you have two minutes left, one-minute left and 10 seconds left. Club Leaders, are you ready for group talk? Group Talk now!
SFX:	Background activity music for 2 minutes
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 2 minutes left!
SFX:	Background activity music for 1 minute
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 1 minute left!
SFX:	Background activity music for 50 seconds
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 10 seconds left! We will start our countdown now. 10...9...8...7...6...5...4...3...2...1! Ok! That is the end of group talk!
Awanatu:	Thank you all for sharing! If there are any questions you still have or any important points you feel you need to discuss with a teacher, please write down your questions and remember that the club leader can ask a mentor or a teacher for advice.
Mohammed:	Great! We now have two lists on the chalkboard. One list is for SAFE places and one list is for UNSAFE spaces.
Awanatu:	We will do group talk again, and this time the club leader will ask each group to pick one place from the SAFE column and explain why they think this is a SAFE space.

Mohammed:	Okay, club leaders, are you ready for the next Group Talk? Remember you have four minutes like before. The background music will come on and I'll let you know when you have two minutes left, one-minute left and 10 seconds left. Club Leaders, are you ready for group talk? Remember we are just looking at the SAFE column for this round. Group Talk now!
SFX:	Background activity music for 2 minutes
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 2 minutes left!
SFX:	Background activity music for 1 minute
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 1 minute left!
SFX:	Background activity music for 50 seconds
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 10 seconds left! We will start our countdown now. 10...9...8...7...6...5...4...3...2...1! Ok! That is the end of group talk!
Awanatu:	Thank you all for sharing about the places where you feel SAFE.
Mohammed:	Now, let's do group talk AGAIN, and this time the club leader will ask each group to pick one place from the UNSAFE column and explain why they think this is an UNSAFE space.
Awanatu:	Ok, club leaders, are you ready for Group Talk? Group Talk now!
SFX:	Background activity music for 2 minutes
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 2 minutes left!
SFX:	Background activity music for 1 minute
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 1 minute left!
SFX:	Background activity music for 50 seconds
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 10 seconds left! We will start our countdown now. 10...9...8...7...6...5...4...3...2...1! Ok! That is the end of group talk!
Awanatu:	Thank you all for sharing about the UNSAFE places.
Awa:	There are lots and lots of reasons why students might feel SAFE in one place but UNSAFE in another place.
Mohammed:	I wonder if some of these reasons are actually thing we can change?
Awanatu:	Hmm, like what?
Mohammed:	Well, let's say that some students feel UNSAFE at the gate of the school because there are strangers hanging around there and harassing them. We could try to think of a solution.
Awanatu:	Yes, like what if the principal checked the gate in the morning or in the afternoon and asked the strangers to leave?
Mohammed:	Well, I don't know if that would work...maybe the principal would need some support from the police or something, I don't know...but let's ask the students to think about these problems.

Awanatu:	Yes, students, you have all given some reasons why you feel a place in and around your school is UNSAFE.
Mohammed:	Let's now use Padi-Padi time to see if you can come up with a solution. Is there anything that can be done to change this space where you feel UNSAFE into a place where you feel more SAFE?
Awanatu:	Get ready to Padi-Padi and discuss. After Padi-Padi the club leader will ask you to share your ideas during Group Talk. At the end we will use group vote to decide on the best solutions. The club leaders will submit the best three solutions to the principal for discussion at the next school staff and Board of Governors meeting.
Mohammed:	Ok, first Padi-Padi, then the rest! With your Padi Padi partner discuss what can be done to change the places that are UNSAFE to make them SAFE? Padi Padi starts now...You have 4 minutes...
SFX:	Background activity music for 2 minutes
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 2 minutes left!
SFX:	Background activity music for 1 minute
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 1 minute left!
SFX:	Background activity music for 50 seconds
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 10 seconds left! We will start our countdown now. 10...9...8...7...6...5...4...3...2...1! Okay stop your Padi-Padi!
Awanatu:	Thank you all for sharing your ideas about how to change the UNSAFE places to make sure that you feel SAFE there. I am sure you have lots of ideas you have discussed with your partner.
Mohammed:	We will now use Group Talk again to hear from the different groups what ideas they have.
Awanatu:	One Club Leader will point to the groups to ask them to share their ideas, and the other club leader will write the ideas down.
Mohammed:	After group Share, we will vote for the best three ideas.
Awanatu:	Ok, club leaders, are you ready for Group Talk? Group Talk now!
SFX:	Background activity music for 2 minutes
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 2 minutes left!
SFX:	Background activity music for 1 minute
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 1 minute left!
SFX:	Background activity music for 50 seconds
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 10 seconds left! We will start our countdown now. 10...9...8...7...6...5...4...3...2...1! Ok! That is the end of group talk!

Awanatu:	Thank you all for sharing your ideas for making UNSAFE places SAFER.
Mohammed:	We will now use Group Vote to decide which three ideas are the best. The Club Leader will submit these three ideas to the principal for discussion at the next school staff and Board of Governors meeting.
Awanatu:	Remember how this works? You should not be voting for your own idea. And you may only vote once. The club leader will read each idea and ask how many students vote for that idea. The other club leader will write down the number of votes next to each idea. Once the club leader has read all the ideas and all have been voted on, the other club leader will check which three ideas have the most votes and prepare these to share them with the principal.
Mohammed:	Once again guys, you cannot vote for your own idea, and you may only vote once!
<i>(In Krio)</i>	<i>You cannot vote for your own idea and you may only vote once.</i>
Awanatu:	Ok, club leaders, are you ready for Group Vote? Group Vote now!
SFX:	Background activity music for 2 minutes
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 2 minutes left! Keep getting those votes done!
SFX:	Background activity music for 1 minute
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 1 minute left!
SFX:	Background activity music for 50 seconds
Awanatu:	Club Leaders, we have 10 seconds left! We will start our countdown now. 10...9...8...7...6...5...4...3...2...1! Ok! That is the end of group talk!
Awanatu:	WOW! What a run! Let's have a look at that chalkboard again.
Mohammed:	You should now have three ideas that you all have voted for as the best ideas for making UNSAFE spaces in your school SAFER.
Awanatu:	The club leaders should submit these three ideas to the principal to discuss at the school staff meeting and Board of Governance meetings.
Mohammed:	Thank you everyone for your contributions! If your idea was not chosen as the best idea, don't feel discouraged. You can always talk about your idea with a teacher or even with the principal. Some ideas might be things you can do on your own, like picking up glass so students don't get hurt. Don't let anything stop you from making your school safe! If there are small things that you can do, start doing them right away!
Awanatu:	Ok, students, today's activities took up most of our time, but we hope you have a better idea about what a safe school is and how you can make sure YOUR school is safe. We also hope you see some of those UNSAFE spaces in your school becoming SAFER.
Mohammed:	Wow Awanatu, we covered a lot today. Let's wrap up with a very quick recap.
Awanatu:	Yes we did! At the start of this session Mohammed and I reflected on everything we learned

over the past seven sessions about what makes a SAFE and Welcoming School.

Mohammed: We then asked students to think about the school grounds. Which buildings and spaces in and around the school felt SAFE and which places felt UNSAFE?

Awanatu: Students listed two columns – one column with places they felt SAFE and one column with places they felt UNSAFE.

Mohammed: We then discussed the reasons why students feel SAFE or UNSAFE in these places and we asked students to think about ideas for changing UNSAFE places into SAFER places.

Awanatu: Finally, we voted for the best ideas and will submit those ideas to the principle.
Mohammed: I want to remind all students to work together with their teachers and with fellow students to make sure that their school is a SAFE and WELCOMING school.

Awanatu: Most of the reasons we feel safe or welcome is down to how other people treat us. So make sure you treat others nicely as you would like to be treated yourself.

Awanatu: I think that is everything that we covered today. Now we'd like to wrap up with some 'Reflection Time'.

SFX: *Small ping or gong.*

Awanatu: We're going to take 30 seconds for everyone to sit quietly and reflect on what we've discussed today. Students, please think about what you liked most about today's session. Was there anything that you found interesting or that you didn't know before? If so, think about whether you'd like to tell your friends or family about it. Was there something that you disagreed with? Something that you'd like more clarification on? Something you have a question about? If so, please write your questions down and give them to your Club Leaders.

Awanatu: Okay everyone, please be quiet now and enjoy your 30 seconds of Reflection Time.

SFX: Reflection Time music (30 seconds – should be different from intro/transition music)

Awanatu: Okay, everyone, thank you for reflecting. Remember, if there was something that you liked from today's session – share what you learned with others. If there was something that you have a question about, I hope you wrote it down. Please give your questions to your Club Leaders now. You can discuss further with your club leader and members.

Mohammed: Great! We can now do question time.
Students, if there are any questions you may still have now, you can give the question to the club leader. The club leader can read the question out loud and the group can try to answer your question. If nobody knows the answer, the club leader can take the question to the mentor or teacher.

If you cannot finish answering all the questions during these four minutes, feel free to continue after the session if there is time. If there are no questions at all, then feel free to fast forward the background music to when we start counting down from 10. Ready? Club Leaders, please read out the first question!

SFX: Background activity music for 2 minutes

Mohammed: Club Leaders, we have 2 minutes left!

SFX: Background activity music for 1 minute

Mohammed: Club Leaders, we have 1 minute left!

SFX: Background activity music for 50 seconds

Mohammed: Club Leaders, we have 10 seconds left! We will start our countdown now. 10...9...8...7...6...5...4...3...2...1! Stop Question Time!

Awanatu: Great. I think it is time to wrap up the session now. Did you have any other points to make?

Mohammed: Yes, I also want to let students know that if they have any suggestions on how the sessions could be run better, please write those down and give them to the Club Leaders or the Mentor.

Awanatu: Good point. We always want to improve the Club sessions and make sure everyone enjoys them.

Mohammed: And I want to make sure that everyone promises to *come to the next club session on time!*

Awanatu: Agreed.

Mohammed: Club Leaders, could you please remind us of the day, time and place for our next session?
(pause for 3 seconds)

Mohammed: Thank you. Students, do you promise to be on time?
(pause for 2 seconds)

I didn't hear you!
(pause for 2 seconds)

Great. See you then!

Awanatu: Okay, thank you again for your participation and we look forward to seeing you for our next session, which is called: **Adolescence: what happens to our emotions?**

Mohammed: Ah emotions! I hope we get to laugh!

Awanatu: Haha, I don't know, but being happy is definitely one of the emotions!

Mohammed: I will come ready!

Awanatu: Great. Hope to see you all at the next session!

Mohammed: See you all soon! (in Krio)

SFX: Closing music (7 seconds)