

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Lead  
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This newsletter brings you the latest equality news and developments at Edinburgh College. Anyone at the College is welcome to contribute to this newsletter, please contact the [EDI Lead](#) for more information. To read past newsletters, please visit this [webpage](#).

## Second Decolonising the College Partners Event

On 14 January 2026, we welcomed back our Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) partners to the Apprentice Restaurant to review the discussion notes gathered at the Black History Month event held in October 2025. The participants helped us with identifying some key improvement actions that we will complete collectively. The partners will also support us with the planning for a College-wide event to celebrate Black History Month in 2026.



## Embedding EDI in Construction Update

Around 50 members of the Construction team from across all four campuses have taken part in our new Embedding EDI in Construction course. Head of School for Construction Garry Maxwell said: "The course has been an excellent way of introducing elements of equality, diversity and inclusion into construction and has engendered some really stimulating conversations amongst the team, highlighting their drive to bring about EDI innovations across the curriculum and within their daily routines."

## Souls of the Shoes Installation



62 pairs of women shoes were on display at the Granton Campus, during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, highlighting the number of women killed by a current or former partner in a year. Many departments collaborated with Edinburgh College Students' Association and delivered the biggest 16 Days of Activism programme to date.

# Former Edinburgh College Photography Student Won Portrait of Britain Award

Ritchie Elder, a former student of the College's BA (Hons) Professional Photography course, has been named one of the winners of the prestigious annual Portrait of Britain award. Richie will have his striking picture, titled "Faith", displayed on digital screens up and down the country as part of the UK's biggest annual photography exhibition. It's also set to be published in the dedicated Portrait of Britain hardcover book. His portrait forms part of a larger documentary project, examining the diversity of religious experience and identity in Edinburgh.



## Silent Men Screening at Sighthill Campus



Staff and students were invited to a screening of Silent Men: The Awkward Art of Expressing Emotion and a Q&A with director, and Edinburgh College graduate, Duncan Cowles. The well-attended event, held on 10 December 2025 in the Sighthill Campus Atrium, was organised by College lecturer Francesco Sani. The director provided insights into how filmmaking helped him to articulate his emotions.

## Coming Up

### February Open Days

Applications are now open for full-time courses starting in August 2026! Come along to one of our open days to find out more about the courses we offer.

- Midlothian Campus, Tuesday 3 February, 4pm - 7pm
- Milton Road Campus, Wednesday 4 February, 4pm - 7pm
- Sighthill Campus, Thursday 5 February, 4pm - 7pm
- Granton Campus, Saturday 7 February, 10am - 1pm

[Find more about the Open Days.](#)

### Sexual Health Awareness and Guidance Week

Edinburgh College Students' Association are excited to have their first ever Sexual Health Awareness and Guidance Week from 09 to 13 February 2026. There will be many activities for students and staff to learn about healthier and safer relationships. The week is also about celebrating sexuality, gender identity, sexual health and wellness, and the human body in all its diverse beauty! To learn more about the events, please visit [ECSA's website.](#)