

# Being Friends Together

Ways of Working > Introductory and Concluding Session Outlines

## Introductory session outline

This simple introductory session can be used at the beginning of any of the *Being Friends Together* pathways, or of your own series of learning sessions. It has options which allow it to be adapted for use with a group of adults or all ages.

Before the session, you will need to download the people bingo handout from the *Ways of Working* page and make copies for everyone.

### Session outline

**Welcome and worship** **5 mins**

**Session Introduction** **5 mins**

**Purpose of this session:** to get to know one another, understand what lies ahead on our learning journey and agree ways of working together.

**Ice-breaker activity – people bingo** **15 mins**

Give everyone a copy of the people bingo card and invite them to circulate around the group trying to find a person who fits the description in each square of the bingo board. Allow enough time for most people to complete at least half the board, even if one person finishes very quickly!

**All age option:** do people bingo in pairs, with younger children paired with an adult or older child.

**The learning journey ahead** **20 mins**

1. Share the aims of the pathway or learning process you are planning for your meeting. Outline the topics and sessions to come and give out any pathway information that you have printed out from *Being Friends Together* or put together yourself. *5 mins*

2. Invite people in a go-round to briefly share their hopes for the learning journey or why they are here. If the group is larger than 10, it is best to split into groups of up to 10 people to do this. *15 mins*

**All age option:** do step 2 in all age groups of 4–6 people.

<http://together.woodbrooke.org.uk>



Being Friends Together is a joint project of Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre (Registered Charity Number: 313816) and Britain Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) (Registered charity number: 112763).



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## Ways of working together

20 mins

1. Give out any information about dates of learning sessions and agree any practicalities such as who will organise refreshments for the next sessions. 5 mins
2. Then spend a little time drawing up a simple group agreement about how you will work together, so that all group members feel safe and able to participate. Download suggested group agreement guidelines from the *Ways of Working* page. 15 mins

**All age option:** do step 2 in all age groups of 4–6 people, feeding back to the whole group briefly at the end.

## Some independent finding out

5 mins

Invite people to do some of their own finding out about the subject of your learning journey. Build in time in later session(s) for some sharing about this, perhaps in small groups. If there is an activity or session later in your learning pathway that particularly invites this kind of 'research,' point it out!

**All age option:** explain that you could do this activity as individuals or families.

## Concluding worship

5 mins

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