

THE NORWOOD SCHOOL HALO PROJECT



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Hair discrimination remains a source of racial injustice with serious consequences for Black people in the UK.

Despite hair being a protected racial characteristic under the law, there is a widely held belief that Black hairstyles are not suited for formal settings, and may be unhygienic, messy, disruptive, or unkempt. These ideas strike at the freedom and dignity of Black people and serve no purpose other than to instil shame in us about our Blackness.

No one should have to change their natural or protective hairstyle in order to thrive. Together, we will ensure that all Black people can learn, work, and live free from hair discrimination.

The Halo Code explicitly protects students and staff who come to school with natural hair and protective hairstyles associated with their racial, ethnic, and cultural identities.



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The Norwood School champions the right of staff and students to embrace their Afro-hairstyles.

We acknowledge that Afro-textured hair is an important part of the racial, ethnic, cultural and religious identities of our Black staff and students.

We welcome Afro-textured hair worn in all styles including, but not limited to afros, locs, twists, braids, cornrows, hair straightened through heat or chemicals, weaves and headscarves.

At The Norwood School, we recognise and celebrate our staff and students' identities. We are a community built on an ethos of equality and respect where hair texture and style have no bearing on anyone's ability to succeed.



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In June 2021, a group of then Year 10 students, gathered for the launch of The Halo Code at The Norwood School. Encouraged by their shared experiences of how they and others viewed their hair, they vowed to create opportunities to celebrate natural hair.

Following their contributions to a Halo Code assembly, the Year 11 'Halo Collective' planned the Natural Hair Photoshoot. Coinciding with Black History Month, the Norwood community came together to encourage staff and students across all year groups to share their natural hair.

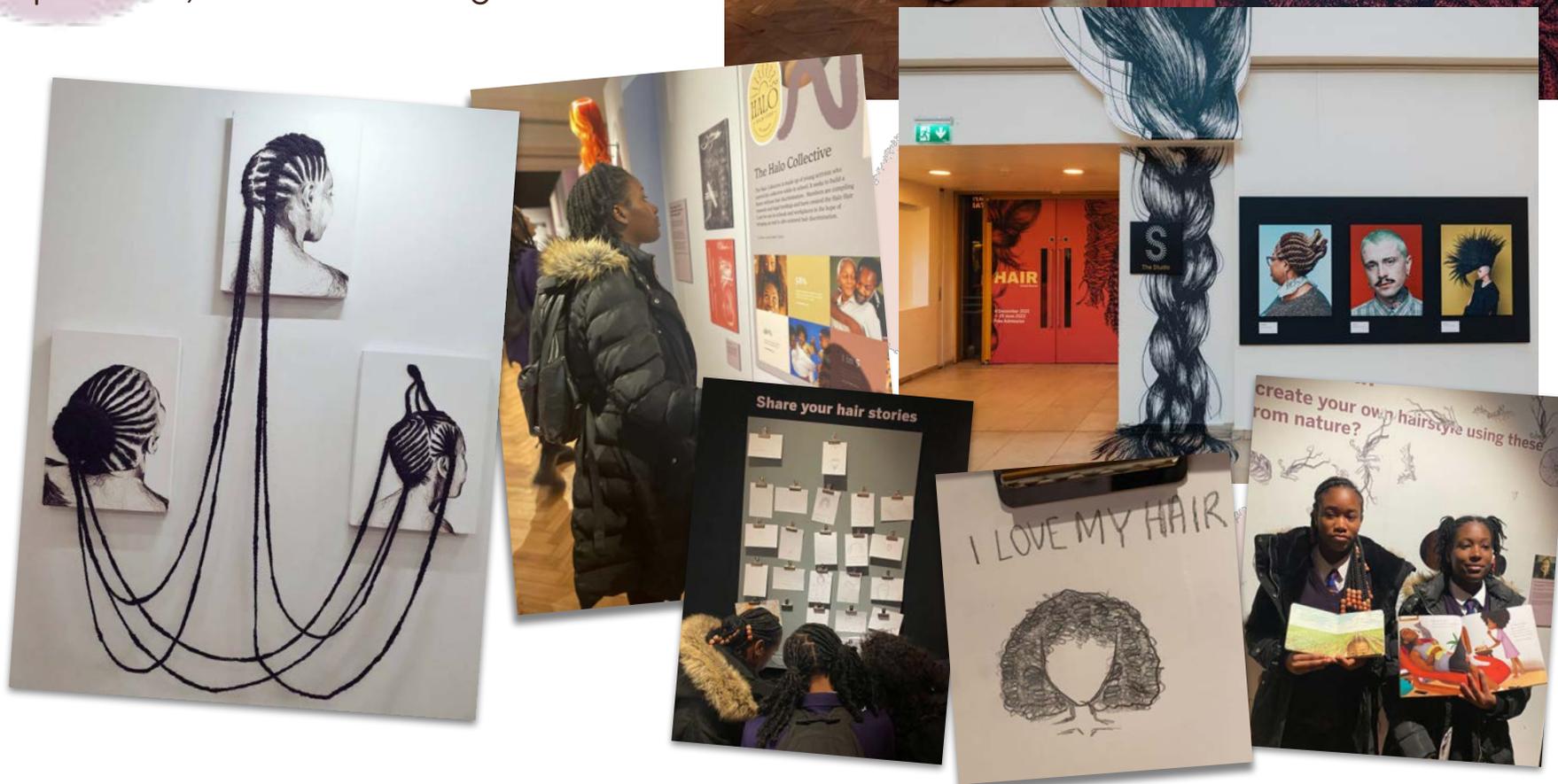
The Halo Collective had a clear vision which was evident through their styling and photography on the shoot as students felt excitement and pride.

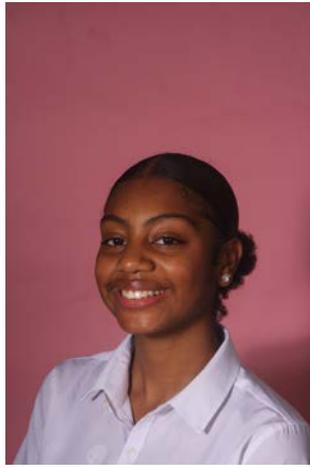
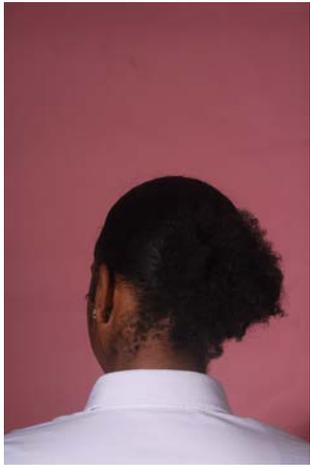
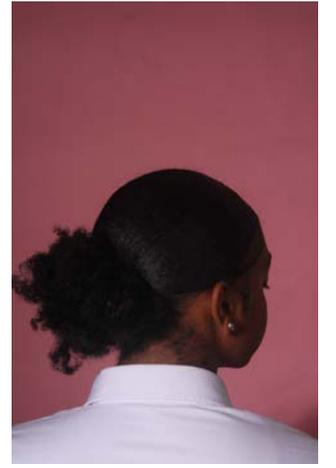


THE HORNIMAN MUSEUM HAIR : STORIES UNTOLD

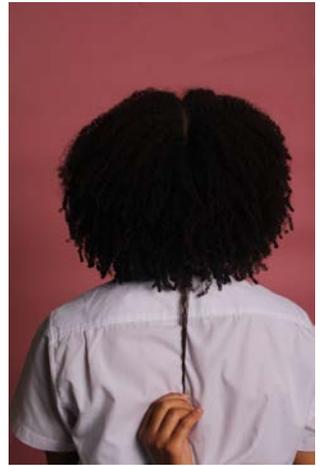
Finally, visiting the 'Hair:Stories Untold' exhibition at The Horniman Museum provided the final inspiration needed to integrate the students' hair stories onto their photographic portraits.

The following pages include a selection of images from the photoshoot as well as creative responses. The outcomes are personal, honest and insightful.

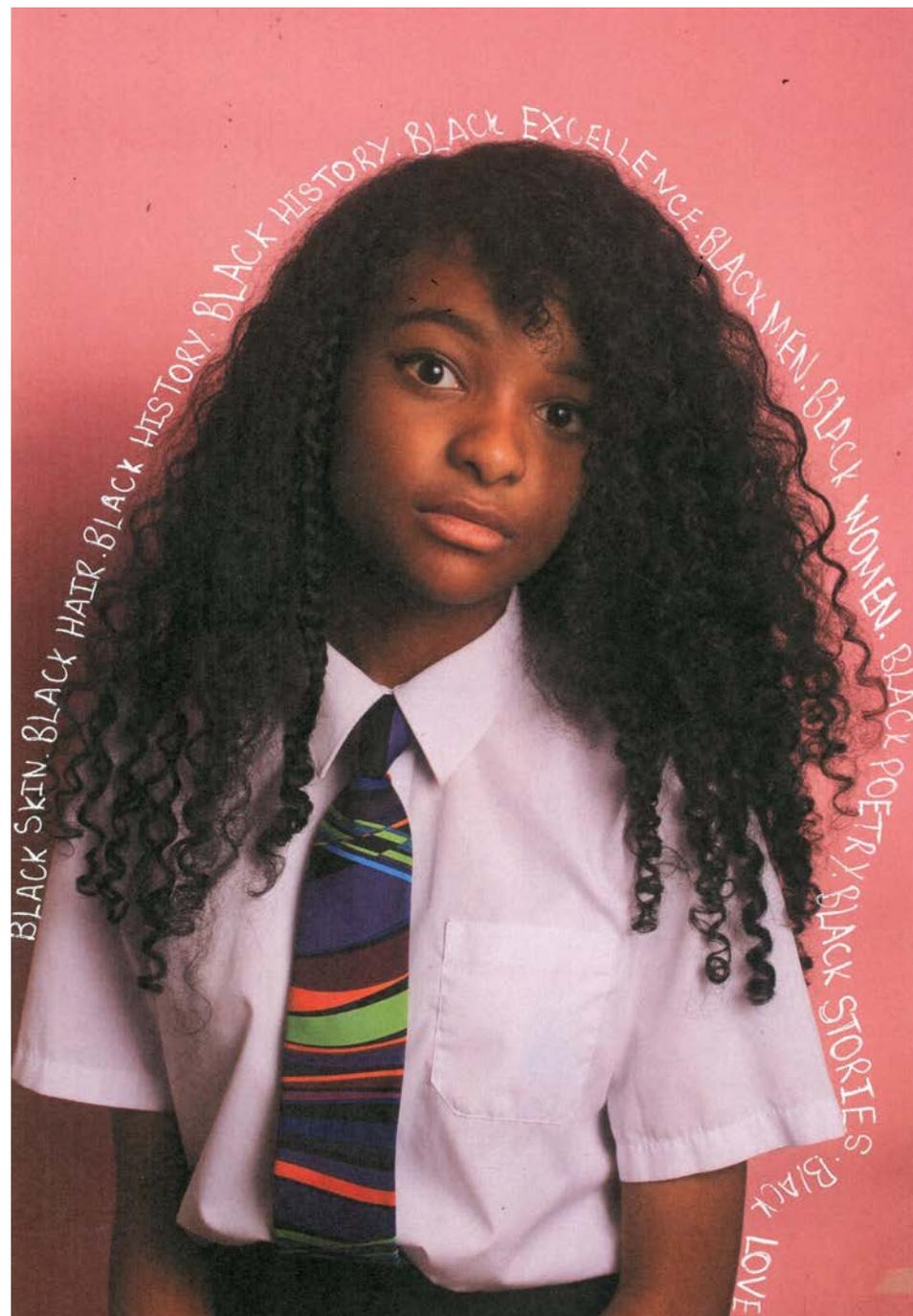


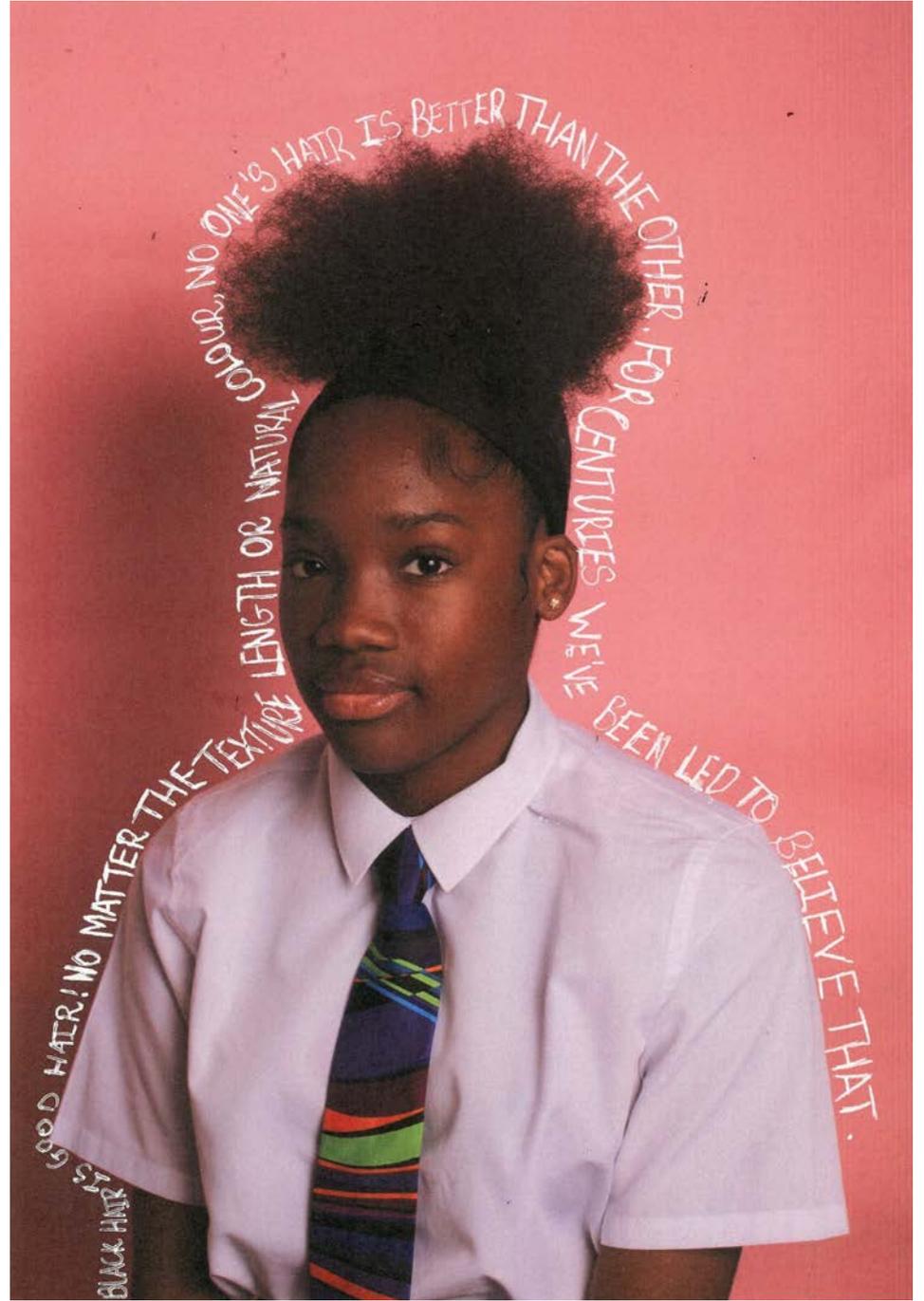


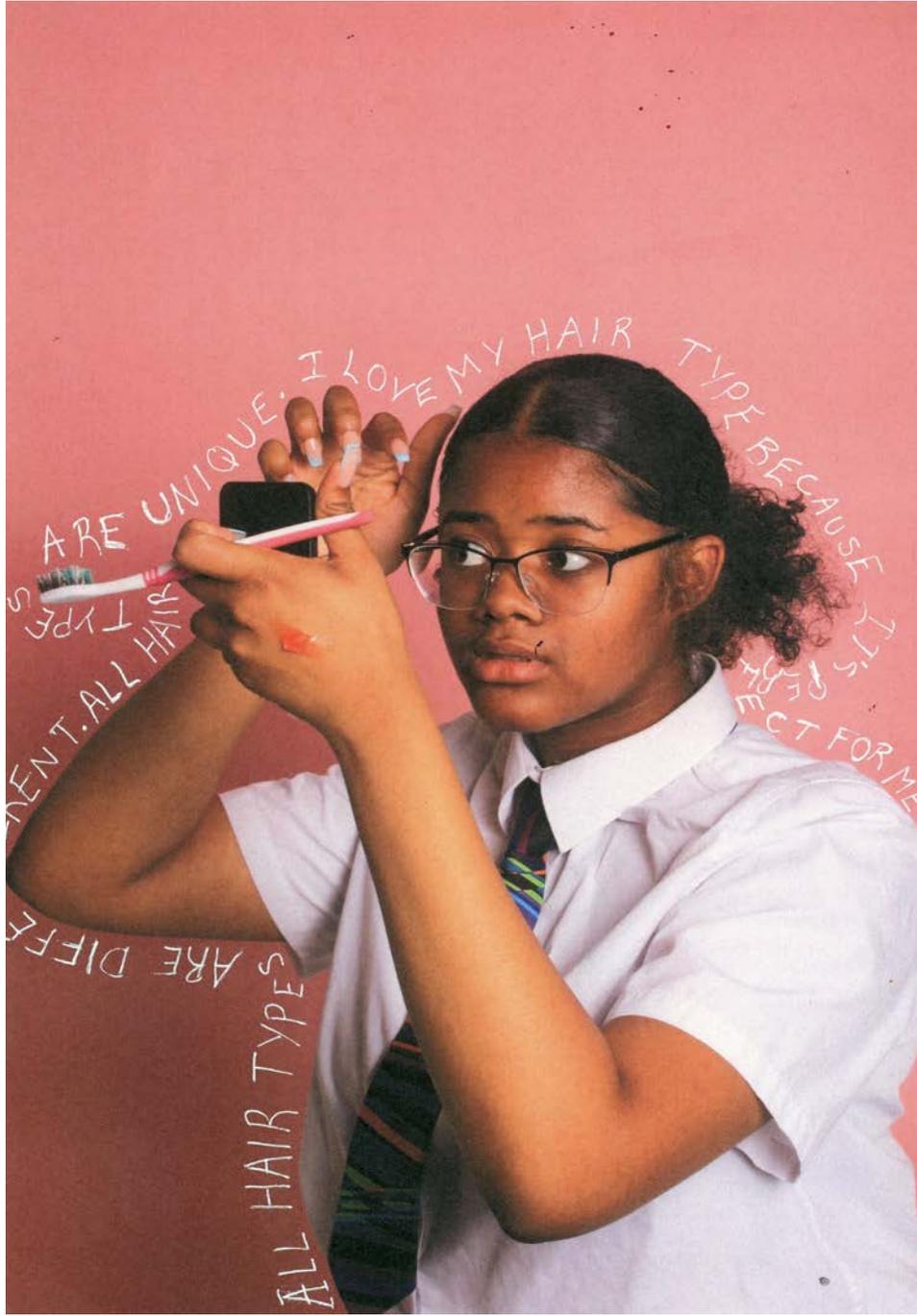












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