(Teacher introduction) This assembly is to introduce ‘Enough food for everyone..IF...’
If is a coalition of organisations who have come together in 2013 to tell people a very important message about food and hunger across the world. We hope that this presentation will help you to start thinking about this in your school, and give you some ideas on how you might want to respond to this message. It would be great if lots of school students across the UK were part of this!
Let’s start by asking what you all think. Is there enough food for everyone in the world?

Put your hand up if you think ‘NO’ there is not enough food for everyone in the world. Now put your hand up if you think ‘YES’ there is enough food for everyone in the world.

There IS enough food to feed everyone in the world, but over a billion people go hungry because they are poor. Over half of these people live and work on small farms but don’t have the money to grow enough food or to buy it from local markets. ‘The world has enough food for everyone, not everyone has enough food to live’ – this is a really useful phrase that you could share with your friends and family.

Image info: Children playing in a vegetable garden grown by the Association for the Protection of the Environment, a local NGO, in Bol. The town is located in Chad’s Sahel belt and was once at the edge of Lake Chad; the lake has dried out over the years and now lies several kilometers away. ©UNICEF
Here’s a few facts to get you thinking.

1 in 8 people on this planet don’t have enough to eat.
More than 2 million children die every year because they cannot get enough food to eat.

Food is getting more and more expensive for all of us to buy. Even in the UK, some people struggle to get enough food to feed their families.
This map highlights areas in the world where there are more people struggling to get enough to eat.
Please bear in mind that this map doesn’t highlight differences within countries, in every country there are people who have plenty to eat and some who have very little.

You can see from this map some of the places in the world where people are most affected by hunger. Asia, Africa and Latin America are some of the areas in the world that suffer the most. Can you see where these places are located on this map? (they are the areas in red and pink)

We have made progress; In 1990 19% of the global population was hungry.
Here’s a few pictures to help us to think about food and hunger across the world. What do we see? How would you describe these photos to your friends? Can you see any issues in these photos? Presenter could prompt topics here. Click after each picture for next one.

Image 1. Poor crops due to drought - climate change is affecting farmers, from droughts to floods and irregular weather patterns making it harder for farmers to feed their families and earn a living.

Image 2. A Land grab is when people's land and homes are destroyed making it harder for them to grow food, feed their families and earn a living.
FACT Every 6 days an area the size of London sold. Meaning farmers who depend on the land to live are struggling to find space to grow food. (Oxfam 2012)

Image 3. Supermarket aisle. Some key prompt questions: Where do we get our food? What impacts do supermarkets have on farmers? Have your families noticed the price of food going up? What controls do you think big companies have on how much farmers get for the food they produce?

Intro to child hunger
Let’s meet Sulmana. Every day he makes the journey to his family’s field, several kilometres from the village of Kpalun in Ghana. Ghana is in West Africa. Under the blazing sun he weeds, chases the birds that pick at seeds and carries heavy loads of maize during harvest. He is just 13 years old. Sulmana would much rather be at school like his friends and younger brother, learning and taking advantage of the lunches that they provide there. However, Sulmana’s father will continue to need his help if he is to grow enough for the other meals their family needs. Working in the fields is really hard work. Here’s what Sulmana said,

When I get up in the morning and come to the farm, sometimes I work until 10 and then rest until 11 and then I work again until 1 and go home. At three o’clock I may come back and weed again. I finish at five o’clock. It is very tiring: when I get home I am tired. My whole body is weak and I will often sleep early. Sometimes I will eat fruit on the farm but it sometimes gives me stomach pain (because his stomach is otherwise empty and it can hurt to eat certain foods). I will eat groundnuts and shea butter on the farm. Sometimes when I eat all this fruit I find when I get home that there is nothing to eat. It is because of the way I eat that I get stomach pains but I am feeling hungry and there is no other food there.
Climate change affecting hunger
Mukta “I feel afraid. When the floods come, our houses fall – everything collapses. Strong floods suddenly rush down the mountains and we run to the school building to take shelter. We don’t have enough food. You get pains in your stomach if you can’t eat.”

In 2007, around 30 million people in South Asia lost their homes and livelihoods after the worst floods for 30 years. Floods have a huge impact on people’s ability to grow and store food.

Here are some of the consequences of flash floods for Mukta’s family:
(Highlight as few or as many as you have time for. Key points in bold. You could ask students to contribute their ideas about the consequences)
• Flash flooding ruins the rice crops and vegetables
• Seeds which have been stored are washed away
• The family have a poor rice harvest
• There is no rice to store after harvest time
• There are no seeds to plant for the following year
• The family cannot earn money from selling rice after harvest time
• The family have no money to buy food

Preparing for disasters is key to survival in Mukta’s community. The community have worked together to build embankments near the village to defend their homes against the floodwaters. ActionAid also supported this community to create a seed bank. Farming families can ‘borrow’ rice seeds to cultivate and then repay double the amount of seeds after harvesting so that they can be used by other farmers. This means that they no longer have to buy rice seeds and can keep growing enough rice
How Aid can help

Now let’s go to Burkina Faso, in West Africa. In this part of Africa, climate change is already affecting the amount of rain that falls, so droughts happen more often and are worse than they used to be. This makes it hard to grow food, which means that people, especially children, don’t have enough of the right food to eat to stay healthy.

Saamatou is seven months old and suffering from ‘malnutrition’. If children like Saamatou don’t get the right nutrients they need as young children, this can affect the way their bodies and brains develop. Malnutrition also makes children more likely to get ill & stops them developing to their full potential.

You can also see a picture of a woman picking vegetables with her baby in Nousso village in Northern Burkina Faso. But even in times of plenty, nutrition is a problem here – not necessarily because of a lack of food, but rather because of a lack of the right kinds of food. Fruit and vegetables are expensive, and mothers are often unaware of the importance of these foods to their children.

Saamatou and this farmer are both part of aid programmes to improve nutrition in Burkina Faso. The mother is supported to grow her own vegetables in a community garden. The people in the community can eat these vegetables, feed them to their children and sell leftover produce to make money. Saamatou is being given the peanut butter paste (called plumpy nut).
So what are we going to do? How can we achieve our aims.

World Leaders (ask who name name any world leaders) including The British Prime Minister, David Cameron, the American President Barack Obama, and The German Chancellor Angela Merkell have the power to make decisions that can reduce the number of people living in Hunger, people like Saamatou, Sulmana and Mukta.

We need to tell them – especially David Cameron - the change we want to see in the world.

In March the government will decide to spend its money for the year ahead – this is normally called the Budget. We need to make sure the UK governments keeps it promise on using some of the budget for Aid to make sure people all over the world are able to feed themselves.

In June 2013 there will be two big meetings happening in the UK. One is the G8 summit and the other a Global Hunger Summit.
We know that tackling world hunger, and dealing with tax avoidance by big companies are going to be discussed.
Success.

ENOUGH FOOD FOR EVERYONE

Brazil is a very large country where 16 million people live on less than £1 per day, and over 60 million people do not have enough money to buy enough food to eat every day. However, 10 years ago the situation was much worse. The government of Brazil has tried very hard to make things better. There are now 20 million fewer people living on less than £1 per day than 10 years ago, and the number of people not being able to buy enough food has gone down by one third. This is mainly because the government launched a project called Fome Zero (Zero Hunger) in 2003. This did three things:

1. Provided poor families with cash to buy food and also health care and schooling
2. Gave free school meals to children
3. Gave farmers small loans and training to grow more and better crops and paid them a better price for their crops.

Although there is still more to do, this has been very successful, helping both small farmers and people living in towns with little money to buy food.

President of Brazil Lula Da Silva talking about Fome Zero (in 2010)
Land grabs
Tribal chief Jumma, 70, from Bajarangpura village, Madhya Pradesh, India stands in a field of mustard plants; on the land the community has now won rights to through long hard struggle. The community now owns 23 hectares of land, on which they can now grow mustard plants, potatoes, wheat and groundnuts. Before they owned the land, they relied on collecting and selling firewood to support their families. Any crops they would try to grow, they say, would be destroyed by government forest officials. Now they can grow their own food. In 2007, Jumma and his wife Kamala went on a protest march with 25,000 others and it was this, they said, that gave them the knowledge of their rights and the strength they needed to continue fighting for their land rights.

In India as in many countries across the globe people are losing their customary lands to governments and big corporations. These communities depend on the land to live by growing their own food to eat and sell.

Teachers Notes
This is more suitable for KS3c and above.
What else could you do to in your day to day life to make a difference?

So let’s get going! We believe in a world in which everyone gets enough food. The world does produce a food for everyone, so we believe that it’s achievable – in our lifetime. We’ve made incredible progress and there’s more reason than ever before to believe that we can be the generation to give everyone, every child, every family a life free from hunger. So what do you think?

Image: Muu-karhu /Wikimedia Commons  http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/ File:Biodegradable_waste.jpg
The campaign coalition is made up from a number a different organisations. 
Try to support, encourage your parents to support 
Hold charity events yourself and raise money to send.
Complete a paper plate with a message, a poem, a picture with your idea.

We'll present all your plates to the Prime Minister before an important meeting in June 2013.

Here are some young people from Upton-By-Chester campaigning for food for all.

We all need to come together and show how we all want a better world for everyone... IF

Nearly one billion people go to bed hungry every night and two million children die from malnutrition every year. We've made progress in other areas, but hunger is the great scandal of our age. All around the world, including in the UK, people are struggling to feed their families.

Now that you have heard some stories from around the world, you will realise that there are still some issues that need to be resolved. As we mentioned at the beginning, the world has enough food for everyone but not everyone has enough food to live. Everyone needs enough food and you can help! One thing that all of you can do is start by making a paper plate.
What ideas have you got to make a big splash?

What about:
Making a big display with your plates before you send them to us
Holding a stall at lunch time to tell other people about the issues and getting more plates to send off.

Taking a GIANT IF photo made up with loads of your school mates spelling out IF or maybe a key fact about the campaign.

Or something totally different – be creative!!