

BRING THE WORLD INTO YOUR SCHOOL



WELCOME TO YOUR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

The British Council offers a range of exciting and innovative approaches to learning and development. Global citizenship and curriculum resources, language learning and programmes that foster an international outlook can help learners to develop the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to operate in our increasingly interconnected world.

Our professional development opportunities and international linking programmes help strengthen leadership skills and teaching practice.

Studies conducted by the British Council and other organisations, summarised on page 12, show that international education can benefit learners, teachers and school communities, whatever the type of school, size or location.

Benefits include:

- Improved learning outcomes across the curriculum
- Enhanced professional practice and leadership development for teachers
- Helping schools meet the objectives of inspection bodies
- Supporting an inspiring and outward-looking school

The innovative ways in which schools across Scotland have used British Council opportunities to support improved learning and teaching are also noted in Education Scotland's National Improvement Hub and web resource.

The British Council offers a range of programmes to bring the world into schools in Scotland through professional development, international linking, language learning and classroom resources.

Professional development

We support teachers to develop their teaching and leadership skills, and equip them to internationalise their school's curriculum. Erasmus+ offers funding for teachers to train, job-shadow or share best-practice with international partners. Similarly, Connecting Classrooms through Global Learning offers high-quality professional development opportunities via a face-to-face and online course.

International linking

We can help you to connect with schools worldwide to work together on curriculum-relevant projects and develop lasting partnerships that benefit students, teachers and the whole school community. eTwinning offers an easy introduction to collaborating online, or you can apply for Erasmus+ funding for a range of partnership projects.

Language learning

We can support language learning and teaching to help deliver the 1+ 2 language policy in your school. Resources include Modern Language Assistants, teaching packs and competitions, plus Erasmus+ funding for pupil and staff exchanges.

Classroom resources

Our classroom resources are designed to engage learners with the world around them while supporting the delivery of the Curriculum for Excellence (CfE). They include lesson plans and classroom activities for all curriculum subjects, and provide ideas and inspiration for working with schools in other countries.

Explore our programmes

We offer valuable opportunities for all teachers and schools:

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OUR PROGRAMMES	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	LANGUAGE LEARNING	INTERNATIONAL LINKING	CLASSROOM RESOURCES
Connecting Classrooms through Global Learning	✓		✓	
eTwinning	✓	✓	✓	✓
Erasmus+	✓	✓	✓	
Language Assistants		✓	✓	
International School Award	✓	✓	✓	✓
HSBC Mandarin Speaking Competition		✓		
UK-German Connection	✓	✓	✓	
Schools Online			✓	✓

Connecting Classrooms through Global Learning

Professional development; international linking

Discover the power of global learning

Connecting Classrooms through Global Learning is the perfect place to start your school's global learning journey. The programme supports schools in Scotland and internationally to learn about and collaborate on the big issues that shape our world. Connecting Classrooms supports schools to embed Learning for Sustainability (LFS) at a whole-school level, helps teachers enhance lessons with global learning themes and offers students the opportunity to interact and learn with peers from other countries. Whether you are part of a cluster or applying for individual opportunities, you can tailor your global learning journey to match your school's priorities thanks to the programme's range of flexible elements.

International school partnerships

Nothing brings global learning to life like the opportunity to learn and interact with peers in other countries. International school partnerships inspire students to fully engage with lessons through joint learning activities focusing on global themes. They also offer teachers the chance to share experiences and learn new practices from colleagues in other countries. Connecting Classrooms offers clusters and individual schools the opportunity to apply for grants for reciprocal visits between partner schools in different countries.

Professional development

To get the most from Connecting Classrooms, teachers and school leaders get free access to high-quality professional development opportunities offered directly through the programme. These training courses equip teachers with the skills and practices to integrate global learning themes into existing lessons, while also providing practical guidance on building and maintaining international partnerships. Training is completely flexible, with face-to-face and online sessions available. You also have the choice of attending external courses or organising training within your school or cluster.

The new Connecting Classrooms through Global Learning programme launches in September 2018.

Find out more:
schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org
 or email schools@britishcouncil.org



eTwinning

Professional development; language learning; international linking; curriculum resources

eTwinning is a digital community for schools in Europe, built around a free online platform which enables partnerships and international linking.

With over 40 countries involved and 580,000 teachers registered, eTwinning allows teachers and schools to collaborate on projects, and access high quality professional development through ready-made resources. The platform offers fully funded professional development opportunities for teachers, which include online workshops and events across partnering countries. eTwinning can be also be the first step towards the International School Award and Erasmus+ funding.

Schools in Scotland have used the platform to support interdisciplinary learning in subjects such as maths, history, geography and music. Teachers have also found eTwinning an excellent mechanism for supporting attainment in literacy:

'Children, in particular those who are less able, found something which helped them to join in - whether it was a group presentation or if they were working with a partner, eTwinning gave them a sense of purpose ... I've found that pupils with low attainment have responded really well.'

Primary School Head Teacher

Teachers can sign up to eTwinning at any time of the year.

Find out more:
britishcouncil.org/eTwinning

Erasmus+

Language learning; professional development; international linking

Erasmus+ is a hugely successful European Union programme which provides funding for school partnerships and professional development in 28 EU countries and five non EU countries. It is open to schools, colleges, universities and youth organisations.

Many schools and local authorities in Scotland have benefited greatly from Erasmus+ funding to deliver a variety of activities, such as language training and job shadowing in partner schools across Europe.

Erasmus+ is divided into two main areas.

Erasmus+ Key Action 1 Funding

KA1 focuses on mobility, allowing staff to undertake professional development and gain work experience in an international environment for up to two months. Opportunities can include studying on courses, job shadowing and observation, or undertaking a teaching placement. Funding can also support other priority areas such as the implementation of the 1+2 strategy. As well as individual schools, the option to apply as a consortium has helped local authorities secure funding to address a shared priority or development need across a number of schools.

Erasmus+ Key Action 2 Funding

This covers partnerships, enabling schools from Scotland to work with schools abroad to tackle joint priorities. Past partnerships have explored how to improve teaching standards, global citizenship, language skills and entrepreneurship.

'These exchanges offer a rich context for learning and, as a school; we believe this to be extremely valuable in promoting responsible global citizenship.'

Secondary School Head Teacher

Collaborations can operate at school or local authority level.

Funding can also cover short-term exchanges of pupils, and short and long-term staff training and teaching assignments.

Application deadlines for the 2018/19 school year will be announced in October 2018.

Applications can be submitted for activities covering up to two years for KA1 and up to three years for KA2.

Find out more:
erasmusplus.org.uk/schools-funding
 or email erasmusplus.enquiries@britishcouncil.org

Language Assistants

Language learning and cultural immersion; international linking

The Language Assistants programme, supported by the Scottish Government, provides schools with an opportunity to employ a native speaker of French, Spanish, German, Italian or Mandarin Chinese. Language Assistants provide substantial assistance with the implementation of the 1+2 language policy.

Language Assistants can work with pupils and teachers to enhance their language skills, increase their cultural awareness and boost their confidence. They bring language to the classroom and motivate students to develop their understanding of the world around them.

Responsibilities can be tailored to suit your whole school approach. For example, Language Assistants can develop lesson plans, interdisciplinary learning through a project based approach and extra-curricular activities, such as lunch time clubs focused on their country's culture.



They can help develop international partnerships with a school in their own country and play an important role in supporting attainment.

'Our school and department benefited greatly from having a modern language assistant both in the BGE and Senior Phase ... allowing for a better meeting of learners' needs which will translate positively on attainment. The numbers of pupils choosing to study a language has also increased this year, which our assistant played a big role in.'

Secondary School Principal Teacher

Find out more:
britishcouncil.org/language-assistants/scottish-schools
 or email
language.assistants@britishcouncil.org





International School Award

Curriculum resources; language learning; professional development; international linking

Established in 1999, the International School Award (ISA) is a free global accreditation and award scheme given to schools that demonstrate engagement in international activity.

With four levels of certification and accreditation (foundation, intermediate, full accreditation and re-accreditation), the award is a supportive and motivational framework that guides schools through their international work. We have an increasing number of accredited schools from Scotland and would like to help more institutions benefit from the valuable support the framework gives.

Find out more:
schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org/isa
 or email isa@britishcouncil.org

HSBC Mandarin Speaking Competition

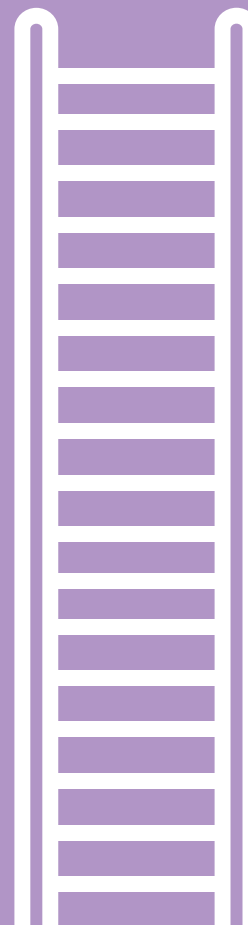
Language learning

The HSBC Mandarin Speaking Competition is an opportunity for students to improve their Mandarin language skills. With entries for beginner, intermediate and advanced levels, and also a group performance category. The competition allows students to develop vocabulary and improve pronunciation and raises their confidence for oral examinations. There is also the opportunity to win a visit to China.

We hope to see more learners in Scotland benefit from the programme and the transformational experience that a visit to China can offer.

Applications for 2018/19 close on Friday 5 October 2018.

Find out more:
schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org
 or email chinaschools@britishcouncil.org



UK-German Connection

Language learning; professional development; international linking

UK-German Connection is a bilateral government initiative for school and youth links.* With the aim of facilitating UK-German youth relations and bringing young people together, UK-German Connection is the first port of call for advice, activities and funding for pupils, teachers, schools and youth groups.

UK-German Connection offers:

- grants for bilateral school projects across the curriculum
- funded language and culture courses
- seminars and trips for young people
- ambassador networks
- CPD opportunities for teachers, and
- advice, support and special initiatives for school partnerships with Germany.

A calendar of opportunities and deadlines is available on the website.

Find out more:
ukgermanconnection.org
 or email info@ukgermanconnection.org



* UK-German Connection has been established and developed in collaboration between the UK and German governments, British Council and Pädagogischer Austauschdienst.

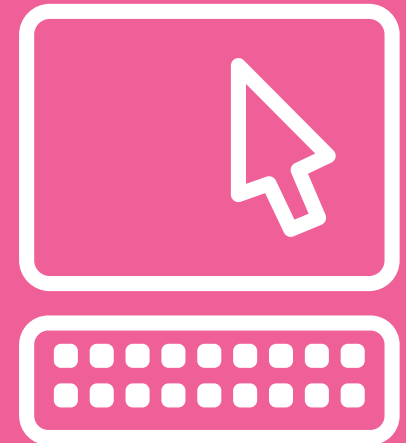
Schools Online

Curriculum resources; international linking

Schools Online is the British Council's online platform that brings the world into classrooms by offering free resources, professional development courses and opportunities to form relationships with schools across the world.

By registering for a free account with Schools Online you will gain access to CPD materials, overseas training and placement opportunities. Classroom resources such as education packs, lesson and assembly plans, are available to suit all age ranges and cover topics including: maths, science, creativity, English, social studies and global citizenship.

Find out more:
schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org
 or email schools@britishcouncil.org



World Class: how global thinking can improve your school

Studies by the British Council, the National Foundation for Educational Research, and the UCL Institute of Education are analysed in *World Class: how global thinking can improve your school*, a report on the impact of international education in schools across the UK.

The report examines the ways in which international learning supports curriculum delivery and motivates learners. It demonstrates how an appreciation of cultural diversity can help young people of all ages and reinforce the wider benefits of language learning. Benefits for teachers through professional learning and collaboration with international peers are also explored.

For schools, findings include a reduction in the performance gap, and an increase in overall professional capacity of the school, both of which aid in meeting inspection requirements. It also explores how international education has been used to positively engage with the local community.

Benefits for learners

- Contributes towards improved reading, writing and communication skills
- Improves the performance of under-achieving learners
- Enhances skills that are relevant in a global economy
- Helps improve motivation
- Develops core ICT skills
- Raises awareness and understanding of different cultures and religions

Benefits for teachers

- An important method of professional development
- Improves confidence in the classroom and develops leadership skills
- Can help improve behaviour of learners in class
- Improves stimulation through refreshed content and resources
- Promotes knowledge of other countries and cultures
- Improves knowledge of global development

Benefits for schools

- Helps reduce the performance gap amongst pupils
- Builds professional capacity in schools
- Makes the curriculum more stimulating and improves ethos around the school
- Improves engagement with the local community
- Helps schools meet the objectives of inspection bodies

Benefits for the community

- Improves relationship with parents
- Brings the local community together
- Helps the transition from primary to secondary school
- Develops partnerships with local authorities and businesses

Read the full report at schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org



British Council Scotland
Waverley Gate
2-4 Waterloo Place
Edinburgh
EH1 3EG

T 0131 524 5770

Email general.enquiries@britishcouncil.org

Website scotland.britishcouncil.org

Twitter @BCScotland

Facebook www.facebook.com/BritishCouncilScotland

Other social media channels:

@Languageasst

@eTwinningUK

@erasmusplusUK

@Schools_On_Line

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British Council Scotland promotes Scottish excellence and interests in arts and education through our international programmes and global network. We provide teachers and schools in Scotland with international opportunities to improve teaching and learning.