

POLICY ON THE INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION

Responsibility	Ruth Higgins
Date of last review	July 2020
Date of next review	July 2022

Pershore High School believes that its students should be encouraged to develop a sympathetic and informed awareness and understanding of other countries and cultures. Since 1999, it has been recognised for its work in promoting global citizenship by the award of International School status and has been a recipient of the award five times. We are currently awaiting a decision on our ISA application made this year. The school seeks to continue to embed its international work throughout and beyond the curriculum.

All areas of the curriculum provide access to the International Dimension within school. These are not only in the major exchange projects that take place, but also projects and lessons that occur on a daily basis in the classroom. In the past years areas that have completed projects centred around the global citizen include History, MFL, Geography, PE and Citizenship.

Teaching in all these subjects will seek to highlight the distinctiveness of the countries and cultures concerned and encourage students to recognise, appreciate and respect their similarities and differences. We encourage students to understand that despite the diversity evident across the globe, we are all citizens of one world. Respect for the way of life of all people is a central aspiration of this endeavour.

Pershore High School is also very proud to be welcoming international visitors to the school, who study with us on a short-term or long-term basis. Over the past few years, we have had small groups from Germany and France with us for a few weeks as well as Sixth Form students from abroad who study with us for the academic year. This benefits the school tremendously as it means our students are living and studying with peers from other countries; friendships are formed and barriers are broken.

Pershore High School also provides opportunities which go beyond those inherent in the National Curriculum. These are similarly intended to foster a wider sympathy and awareness and to reinforce the message of the global curriculum. They include:

- Overseas travel and the opportunity to experience life in a foreign country. In the past year this has included trips to Belgium (History), Germany (MFL) and trips had been planned to go to Iceland (Geography), New York (Sixth Form), China (all departments). The latter three trips have been postponed due to Covid.
- Continuing and varied links with students in Bad Neustadt and Plouay (Pershore's twin towns): Exchange arrangements exist with schools in both these places with a wide range of ages taking part. The exchanges alternate between the French and the German exchange in order to allow for people to participate in both.
- Pershore High School is looking forward to the upcoming Chinese exchange programme which was to take place this year. Staff travelled over to China last October in order to establish links with a school there to be able to embark on this project.
- Other projects have included an eTwinning project, which is an online project website enabling students from a variety of countries to work together on a specially designed project; a Connecting Classrooms project, which has seen links between Pershore High School and a school in Kenya, as well as smaller projects such as the European Week of Languages and pen-pal projects as part of the school's Language Club.