



1. INTRODUCTION

Our International Policy has been inspired by the result of participating in the British Council's 'Connecting Classrooms' project as part of a cluster network of schools based within Wolverhampton, West Midlands, England.

2. WE BELIEVE

The whole ethos of Warstones Primary School is to provide every child with a happy, caring, learning environment in which he or she can develop their full potential - whatever their needs and irrespective of ability race or gender – 'Every child matters every day'. We believe our pupils, staff and parents need to understand the world in which we live: the values and culture of different societies; the ways in which we are increasingly dependent upon one another; and the ways in which we all, as global citizens, can influence and shape the changes in the global economy, environment, and society of which we are part.

3. BENCHMARKING

As a school we need to benchmark our teaching, learning and systems measuring ourselves against those of other nations and matching them. Not simply in terms of measures of attainment, but understanding how other countries have tackled educational problems and the challenges of supporting children and their families. We recognise that we may have much to learn from elsewhere. Benchmarking also means being a global partner. Our education system has a tremendous reputation overseas. We can and should be collaborating for mutual benefit in the hope that not only Warstones pupils but all people across the world will have the educational opportunities, the family support and the skills development that enable them to participate fully in a global society.

4. AIMS

We need to equip our children, young people and adults for life and work in a global economy We aim to

- Equip our children for life in a global society and work in a global economy.
- Instil a strong global dimension into the learning experience of all our children.
- Introduce our pupils to other languages.
- Ensure pupils, parents and staff, view the teaching of Modern Foreign Languages and engagement with other cultures as a positive, enjoyable and worthwhile thing to do.
- To build strong Community Cohesion both locally, nationally and globally
- Engage with international partners to help us to achieve their goals and ours. To do this we need to develop partnerships with other schools.
- Benchmark our own performance against world-class standards, drawing on best practice.



- Develop our capacity to engage with a wide range of partners across the world.
- Share expertise and resources in support of the improvement of education in our own school, our cluster network and partner schools internationally.
- Use I.T in a creative and innovative manner to support our goals

5. THE INTERNATIONAL REALITY AND CONTEXT FOR OUR WORK

a) We live in one world. What we do affects others, and what others do affects us, as never before. We recognise that we are all members of a world community and that we have responsibilities to each other. This is not romantic rhetoric, but modern economic and social reality.

b) We should aim to benefit from the unique position the United Kingdom occupies in this world: at the heart of the Commonwealth, deeply linked by language, a core member of the UN and of its constituent agencies, and an active participant in many other international bodies.

c) Globalisation is a modern day reality. It is our responsibility to prepare to our young people for life and work in the 21st century. To meet this first goal, we therefore must

- i. Instil a strong global dimension into the learning experience of all children and young people.
- ii. Transform our capability to speak and use other languages.

6. ENSURING COMMUNITY COHESION

Instilling a global dimension into the learning experience of all children and young people, is a key responsibility of the school. Our view is that all who live in a global society need an understanding of the eight key concepts below.

1. **Citizenship, identity and belonging**

Gaining the knowledge, skills and understanding of concepts and institutions necessary to become informed, active, responsible global citizens.

2. **Social Justice, fairness and equality**

Understanding the importance of social justice as an element in both sustainable development and the improved welfare of all people.

3. **Sustainable living and development.**

Understanding the need to maintain and improve the quality of life now without damaging the planet for future generations.

4. **Diversity**

Understanding and respecting differences, and relating these to our common humanity



5. Values and perceptions

Developing a critical evaluation of images of other parts of the world and an appreciation of the effect these have on people's attitudes and values

6. Interdependence

Understanding how people, places, economies and environments are all inextricably interrelated, and that events have repercussions on a global scale

7. Conflict resolution and peace

Understanding how conflicts are a barrier to development and why there is a need for their resolution and the promotion of harmony

8. Rights and Responsibilities

Knowing about human rights and, in particular the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

We promote the inclusion of these concepts in the learning experience of our children. They should permeate every subject of the National Curriculum. We are keen to develop curriculum linkages that have the potential to promote an understanding of global citizenship. We recognise the value of the International School Award as a means of driving this agenda forward and for sustaining the continuing development of the International Dimension across the life of the school.

7. INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Engaging with international partners to achieve their goals and ours. It is both right and in our own interest that we should seek to learn from others, share ideas and experience, and collaborate to raise the standards of teaching and learning for our children. In pursuing this goal, our priorities are:

- To benchmark our own performance against world-class standards, drawing on best practice everywhere.
- To develop our capacity to engage strategically with a wide range of partner schools across the world.
- To share expertise and resources to contribute to the improvement of education in the developing world.

8. DEVELOPING OUR CAPACITY TO ENGAGE STRATEGICALLY WITH A WIDE RANGE OF PARTNERS

We aim to develop an increasing number of partnerships with schools in other countries.

As a cluster network, we are enjoying successful links with a variety of schools in Zambia, Africa. We promote

- E-mail links
- International Projects supported by the British Council, including 'Getting to know you' projects and links to build further relationships and communications between Wolverhampton and Zambia
- The creation of curriculum links and resources



- The development of professional dialogue
- The use and development of IT skills
- The enhancement of our Citizenship Curriculum
- The development of bonds of friendship
- Leading to the overarching target of Community Cohesion

The school works with a number of partner schools thanks to the help of agencies such as the British Council. These links enable the school to have fruitful and mutually beneficial contacts with a diverse range of international schools.

Within the context of the above we are open to fostering professional International links for staff at the school and to be open towards International exchanges.

Of huge significance is a need to develop an appreciation of multi-cultural Britain, (which is not particularly evident in our community) to rejoice, learn, share and experience the cultural wealth of Britain today.

9. STRATEGIC ASPECTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION AT WARSTONES PRIMARY SCHOOL

- Securing the teaching of Modern Foreign Languages and celebrating a range of other diverse forms of communication, including BSL (British Sign Language)
- Securing the long term future of our school links in Zambia and beyond
- Benefiting from professional relationships with colleagues in schools abroad to the mutual benefit of all staff
- Maintaining the full International School Award
- Profiting across the curriculum from the International Dimension.
- Achieving funding for the development of international links and initiatives
- Developing IT skills of staff and pupils to enhance the International Dimension
- Working on projects supported by the British Council.
- Fully resourcing the International Dimension at Warstones Primary School



10. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

Every child has equal opportunity to engage in the International Dimension of the Curriculum, Inclusion being central to the philosophy of the school. This area of the Curriculum also has the additional benefit of being able to demonstrate explicitly the equality of humanity from all cultures and traditions and to demonstrate the wealth of experiences, from which we can all share and learn.

II. ORGANISATION and TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE and Job Description of the International Coordinators

The organisation of the International dimension to the curriculum will be supported by the INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE and local cluster network. This committee meets at least once a term. Membership includes: Head Teachers, LA School Improvement Partner, SENCO and school staff. Other interested staff members are welcome to attend meetings. The International Coordinators have the job to manage the following. Their combined role is to:

- Review and develop the International Policy
- To maintain the International Schools Award
- To seek every opportunity to promote the aims and values expressed in this policy
- To ensure that the school is not racist in any of its work, intentionally or otherwise.
- To ensure the school does not discriminate on any grounds including, race, gender, sexual orientation, disability, ethnicity, nationality or faith.
- To promote a fully inclusive school.
- To support in the arrangement of special guests and visitors to work in school in connection with the aims of this policy.
- To support the school in exploiting opportunities for using the international dimension across the curriculum.
- To plan the annual 'Zambia Day' celebrations at Warstones Primary School
- To foster successful and mutually beneficial links with partner schools in Zambia and beyond.
- To communicate with staff, governors and parents about the work, benefits and possibilities of improved links with partner schools.
- To evaluate the success of the policy
- To ensure that the International Dimension is a permanent feature in the School Improvement Plan
- To seek opportunities to harness the power of IT to develop International work and links with other schools.



Warstones Primary School
INTERNATIONAL POLICY
Written July 2023

- To work towards the target of becoming a 'Sustainable' School and promoting sustainable living through the creation of an 'eco-squad'.
- To promote the development and use of the school grounds and the work of all pupils through Outdoor Learning
- Ensure Equalities Report is published and acted upon
- To ensure any relevant plans are in place to support the needs of Disabled Pupils in relation to this International Policy

