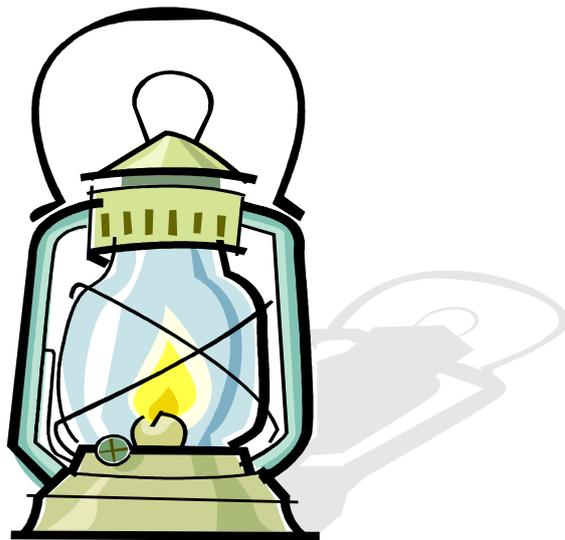




# ***INTERNATIONAL POLICY***



Autumn 2014



*“Shine like a lantern in the presence of the Lord.”*

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## Introduction

The governors and staff of St Bede's School recognize that:

- Global issues are an important part of the lives of our pupils. This is true now and will be increasingly so in the future.
- Children are living in a world where global economies are increasingly interdependent and global communication is a daily reality. Our pupils have access to the internet and increased opportunity to travel, watch news stories from around the world and follow, for example, international sporting events as they happen.
- The global dimension should be reflected in the attitudes and values of our pupils, the ethos of our school and the curriculum we follow.

## Global Awareness in Action

- We recognize that the eight key concepts below can be used as a framework to think about the Global Dimension in school. They act as 'lenses' through which issues can be viewed in each curriculum area; they are also themes for whole school policy and action.
1. Diversity – understanding and respecting differences and relating these to our common humanity.
  2. Conflict resolution – understanding the nature of conflicts and their impact on development.
  3. Global citizenship – becoming informed, active, responsible global citizens.
  4. Human rights – knowing about human rights and the UN Rights of the Child.
  5. Interdependence – understanding how people, places, economies and environments are linked.
  6. Social justice – understanding the importance of social justice for everyone's welfare.
  7. Sustainable development – understanding the need to maintain and improve the quality of life now without damaging the planet for the future.
  8. Values and perceptions – understanding different perspectives on global issues.

Source DfES 2005 'Developing the global dimension in the school curriculum'

## Aims

At St Bede's, through our approach to global and international issues, we aim to enable our pupils to:

- know and understand more about global issues and the impact they have on local and individual decisions and actions.
- understand that decisions and actions taken individually and locally have an impact globally.
- celebrate the rich and diverse heritage represented both in our school and in local and national communities and to value and respect different cultures and beliefs.
- enjoy regular contact with pupils and adults living in different countries and cultures.
- through the whole school curriculum plan, we provide a range of opportunities to explore the global dimension within each curriculum area.
- through our whole-school initiatives we aim to:

Develop and fully exploit a variety of *global learning partnerships*, for example

1. Email and internet projects, including the introduction of video conferencing.
2. Interacting with visitors from other countries (both pupils & adults).
3. Pupil/staff visits to places of cultural interest in the UK and possibly abroad.

4. Staff CPD visits on the *Teachers' International Professional Development Programme*, European Research Partnerships and *International Placements for Teachers*.

We also:

- Make provision for the study of a *modern foreign language* for all our pupils in Foundation, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 within the curriculum.
- Organize *regular celebrations* of our rich and diverse heritage.
- Ensure our *assembly programme* includes opportunities to learn about and reflect on global issues.
- Provide opportunities for children to 'make a difference' through *projects, events and initiatives* run by the school in partnership with external agencies.
- Ensure our *school display* encourages engagement with global issues and celebrates our multi-cultural society.

In order to achieve our aims we will:

- Achieve the re-accreditation of full international school award.
- Ensure that international dimension is embedded in the whole school curriculum
- Plan programmes and lessons so that on a regular basis students have the opportunity to discuss, develop and engage with international issues.
- Establish school exchanges.
- Set up projects (such as Comenius) to foster trans-European contacts and raise awareness of the European Community.
- Foster a positive attitude towards people from other countries and cultures.
- Work with International Dimension Co-ordinators from other schools in order to establish contact with non-European and Third World destinations
- Set up International events, for example International Day, united nation UN day.
- Help all subject areas within the school to benefit from International links and include International activities in their planning.
- Involve parents in celebratory events, exchanges, visits sharing their adult expertise and experience.

Outcomes:

As a result of implementing this policy we would expect that our students

- respect, accept, understand and show a positive attitude towards different cultures, peoples, countries and lifestyles
- are willing to engage with other people in their own language
- see themselves as citizens of a world which is wider than their immediate place of residence
- will have made significant contacts with other countries and cultures
- will have a rich 'international 'experience in every subject they study
- St Bedes school becomes the centre of reference and excellence

#### **INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION CO-ORDINATOR – JOB DESCRIPTION**

- To raise awareness of the International Dimension throughout the School.
- To be aware of LA initiatives to promote the International Dimension.
- To co-ordinate international special events or activities.

- To liaise with and support visitors from other countries.
- To monitor and support existing links and exchanges.
- To look for opportunities to establish new links and exchanges.
- To organise or provide appropriate in-service training or encourage Staff to apply for external training.

### **INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION CO-ORDINATOR – THE ROLE**

Special emphasis is given to the International Dimension and the role of the Co-ordinator in developing this work. We aim to promote links within our own community but also to reach beyond to Europe and the world to ensure that the pupils are given opportunities to broaden their horizons and raise their self-esteem. The role of the Co-ordinator is crucial in ensuring that our aims are achieved.

The Co-ordinator will:

- develop and promote links with schools in other countries via letters, Internet, e-mail and video conferencing;
- co-ordinate the display of International work in school;
- co-ordinate awards and bids for International work;
- co-ordinate LA initiatives whenever appropriate to further enhance our Work in the International Dimension.

### **CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Training will take place in accordance with the school CPD policy, Performance Management Policy and in accordance with current staff training needs.

### **MONITORING**

All of our work is subject to on-going monitoring and review so that we continuously improve and develop to raise the achievement and self-esteem of our children. We were commended for our latest International Schools Award in (2010-2013) and received a Spanish School of the Year 2009 and were awarded primary Languages Classroom Award in 2010. We achieved the re-accreditation of full International School Award in Sept 2013.

### **REVIEW**

This policy will be reviewed regularly to meet school needs and in response to the national and local policies.