



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD

Press release

28/10/2015

British Council International School Award success for Shoreham Academy

Shoreham Academy has been awarded the British Council's prestigious International School Award in recognition of its work to bring the world into the classroom.

The International School Award is a badge of honour for schools that do outstanding work in international education, such as through links with partner schools overseas. Fostering an international dimension in the curriculum is at the heart of the British Council's work with schools, so that young people gain the cultural understanding and skills they need to live and work as global citizens.

Shoreham Academy's international work includes direct contact with students from other countries including Holland (Dutch students visited our PE and English departments and took part in lessons); France (our students went to Paris and after exchanging pen friend letters met their counterparts and are keeping in touch and our 6th form are setting up a cultural link with a Lycée in Shoreham's twinned town in France); our year 7 classes have been corresponding and working collaboratively with a school in Melbourne, Australia on an art/environment project; our students of German in year 10 hosted a visit from a school in Germany; Spanish students attended a workshop on the Day of the Dead at Brighton University and then came back to school and taught their peers the culture of the tradition and our Arts Award students prepared for, raised money for the trip and went on a life-changing visit to Ghana, where they both taught disadvantaged children and attended exciting workshops as well as having an experience they will never forget and so the list goes on.

There have been whole school days eg celebrating China via all areas of the curriculum including a visit from the Chinese Circus shared with our feeder primary, Glebe, and, a whole school USA day where we celebrated the cultures, peoples, inventions and contribution of the USA to our everyday life. Every area of the school took part from lessons and links to the curriculum to the menu at lunchtime and entertainment at break from our musicians. Shoreham Academy has an ethos of celebrating cultural diversity and embedding the Global Dimension into our curricula at all levels – from year 7 to 6th form – and we are delighted to achieve this prestigious recognition in of our work which will be valid for the next 3 years.

On hearing the news that **Shoreham Academy** had received the award, Jim Coupe, Principal said: I am delighted that the huge efforts of students and staff over the course of the past year has been recognised with this award. Staff have worked exceptionally hard to ensure that the students here receive lots of opportunities both within the academy and outside of it to have an international dimension to their education which will develop them as confident and knowledgeable global citizens.

British Council Chief Executive, Sir Ciarán Devane, said: ‘The school’s fantastic international work has rightfully earned it this prestigious award. The International School Award is a great chance for schools to demonstrate the important work they’re doing to bring the world into their classrooms. Adding an international dimension to children’s education ensures that they are truly global citizens and helps prepare them for successful future careers in an increasingly global economy.’

The award is now available worldwide in countries such as India, Egypt, Lebanon and Pakistan as part of the Connecting Classrooms programme, which is delivered by the British Council and supported by the Department for International Development (DFID).

International Development Secretary Justine Greening said:

“Young people must be at the heart of our work to create a safer and more prosperous world for everyone and we need to ensure their voices are heard if we are to win the fight against global poverty. That is why I am delighted to celebrate the international work of Shoreham Academy and the energy and passion of the young people involved.

“The International School Award is a great way of highlighting how young people have the potential to change things for the better. I’m sure that schools getting involved will be broadening the horizons of their students, which will not only help their careers but benefit their wider lives in the future.”

Around 5,000 International School Awards have been presented to successful schools in the UK since the scheme began in 1999.

The International School Award encourages and supports schools to develop:

- An international ethos embedded throughout the school
- A majority of pupils within the school impacted by and involved in international work
- Collaborative curriculum-based work with a number of partner schools
- Curriculum-based work across a range of subjects
- Year-round international activity
- Involvement of the wider community

To interview the school or for images, please contact Tim Harkins, Business Director

For more information about the International School Award, please contact our team at schools@britishcouncil.org

Notes to Editors:

The **British Council International School Award** started in 1999 to recognise the schools leading the way in instilling and developing a global dimension into the learning experience of all children and young people. It is managed by the British Council.

British Council Schools Online is a supportive 'one stop shop' to help schools find international opportunities and teaching resources, including details about the British Council International School Award. Any school can find out how to apply by visiting <http://schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org>

The **British Council** is the UK's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities. We create international opportunities for the people of the UK and other countries and build trust between them worldwide.

We work in more than 100 countries and our 8,000 staff – including 2,000 teachers – work with thousands of professionals and policy makers and millions of young people every year by teaching English, sharing the arts and delivering education and society programmes.

We are a UK charity governed by Royal Charter. A core publicly-funded grant provides 20 per cent of our turnover which last year was £864 million. The rest of our revenues are earned from services which customers around the world pay for, such as English classes and taking UK examinations, and also through education and development contracts and from partnerships with public and private organisations. All our work is in pursuit of our charitable purpose and supports prosperity and security for the UK and globally.

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