



Opportunity**Education**

GLOBAL SCHOOL EXCHANGE

www.opportunity-education.com



CONTACT US

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OPPORTUNITY EDUCATION GLOBAL SCHOOL EXCHANGES



Opportunity Education work with schools across the globe and the UK to encourage collaboration and partnerships in education, allowing students and teachers in different countries to learn from each other, celebrate diversity and promote global citizenship.

Over the past 6 years Opportunity Education have encouraged over 6,000 students to step outside of their comfort zone. Our student exchange and immersion programmes help young people to discover new cultures, gain an interest in language learning, and develop the way they look at the world.

Our annual conferences and international school visit opportunities enable both school leaders and teachers to share ideas, and gain an international perspective on their work.

Opportunity Education are accredited by the British Accreditation Council (BAC) as a UK Short Course Provider, recognising our excellent programme management, teaching and safeguarding.

We are passionate about the ways in which cultural exchange can enrich students' lives, and we look forward to hearing about your school's international plans.

Tom Saunders
Director, Opportunity Education

FOR UK SCHOOLS

EXCHANGE AND IMMERSION PROGRAMMES

Opportunity Education facilitate visits between primary, junior and secondary schools in the UK and across the world throughout the academic year. Such visits create a real buzz at a school; students discover more about other cultures, practise their language and communication skills, and learn about being a welcoming host. Visiting students 'buddy up' with UK friends, integrating into their different classes throughout the week, and learning about typical life in a British school.

Host and visiting teachers also have the opportunity to engage with one another, discuss pedagogy, and form global partnerships.

A Welcome Assembly helps to break the ice at the start of the week, and new friendships are celebrated during a Closing Assembly, where each student receives a participation certificate.

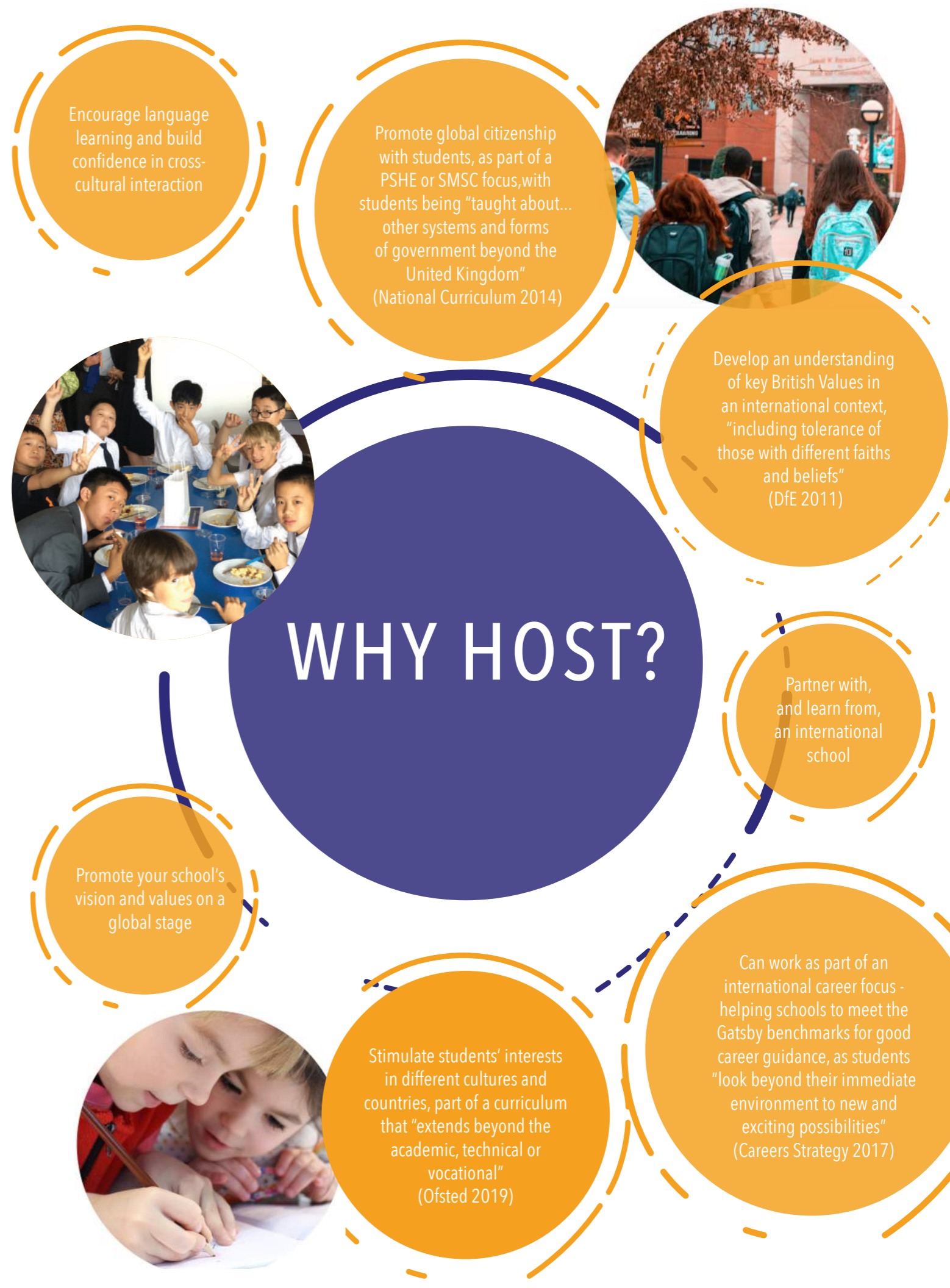
During the week, there is an option for participating students to get involved in after-school activities and workshops delivered by Opportunity Education.

Visiting students stay with host families or in nearby accommodation.

These programmes have become a regular part of the academic calendar for many of the schools we work with, so year group after year group can benefit from the programme.

“
This was the first time we have hosted pupils from abroad and it has been a huge success...lasting relationships have been made with pupils and teachers, which we hope to continue through joint projects and collaborations.
”

Headteacher -
Milford-on-Sea Church of England Primary,
in *The Lymington Times*.



IN-SCHOOL SUPPORT FROM OPPORTUNITY EDUCATION

Opportunity Education manages all programme organisation and administration.

PRE-ARRIVAL

Before the visiting group arrive, teaching staff are issued with resources, helping you to prepare for cultural differences, etiquette, and practical information for the visit.

If the visiting teachers and students stay with local host families, we manage all the safeguarding requirements, including DBS checks, references and home visits.

DURING THE VISIT

A member of Opportunity Education staff will be present within your school for the duration of the week. Our In-School Coordinator's role is to support the visiting group, and liaise with teaching staff to ensure core learning objectives are met. They'll welcome the students at the beginning of the day, supervise throughout, run after-school activities and ensure all depart safely at the end of the day.

	MORNING	AFTERNOON	AFTER SCHOOL
MONDAY	Opening Assembly with Head Teacher Visiting students buddied with British pupils and join classes	Lunch Visiting students join classes	After-school activities run by OE staff Visiting picked up by homestay families, supervised by OE staff
TUESDAY - THURSDAY	British buddies meet Visiting students and take to classes	Lunch Visiting students join classes	After-school activities run by OE staff Students picked up by host families
FRIDAY	British buddies meet Visiting students and take to classes	Lunch Closing Assembly with Head teacher, British and visiting students awarded certificates	After-school activities run by OE staff Students picked up by host families

WHAT'S EXPECTED OF MY SCHOOL?

All programmes differ according to a school's objectives. Broadly, the following elements are included:

- After a Welcome Assembly, visiting students are assigned a UK 'buddy'. In some cases, this 'buddy' may be part of the homestay family who the student stays with.
- Visiting students attend the same lessons as their UK 'buddy' (where possible)
- A Closing Assembly on the final day with our certificates given to all participating students

Often schools will focus on a week of cultural exchange by tailoring lessons to include visiting students and arranging specific activities for the week. For example, students may present on a topic of global debate, work on a joint project, compete in a sports competition, or host joint exhibitions of artwork.

“

The visit gave our students an opportunity to integrate with pupils from a different country and a chance for them to become teachers and help them with the lessons that we were doing as well as an opportunity to work on their patience, tolerance and communication skills. On the whole the immersion experience provided was of a very high standard.

Charlton Manor Primary School



ONGOING PARTNERSHIPS AND EXCHANGE

Partnerships across international borders have a lasting impact for young people.

Working with Opportunity Education offers ongoing collaboration for the benefit of students and schools.

TRIPS ABROAD

Opportunity Education organises tailored trips abroad for schools that have hosted visitors to the UK, which is an opportunity to build on the interest generated from welcoming and hosting students and teachers. We organise visits to schools overseas, which gives students an insight into another education system. This is incorporated with a sightseeing programme; for example, students participating in our visit to China saw the Terracotta Warriors in Xian, the Great Wall of China, Beijing's Forbidden City, and the Giant Panda nature reserves in Chengdu!

Trips are subsidised by Opportunity Education.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEACHERS

Opportunity Education organises CPD opportunities for UK teachers, such as its annual Headteacher conferences.

School leaders and Senior Leadership Team members are invited to attend conference events, which share comparative practice in education. Attendance is subsidised by Opportunity Education.

A SELECTION OF OUR PARTNER SCHOOLS

ETAPA EDUCACIONAL, SÃO PAULO

Etapa Educacional is a network of globally minded schools in Brazil's vibrant financial and cultural centre São Paulo. Located on the Belacosta, translated as 'beautiful coast', the schools in this area welcome students from a range of diverse backgrounds and communities in Brazil. With a keen focus on promoting English learning, Etapa Educacional runs a number of international exchange initiatives around the world.

WUXI FOREIGN LANGUAGE SCHOOL, WUXI

Wuxi Foreign Language School, located at the foot of Mount Xihu and on the shores of the beautiful Lake Taihu, consistently ranks as one of the top academic schools in the affluent and green city of Wuxi, Zhejiang. The school is an 'all-through' institution with over 7000 students, from Kindergarten to High School age, and includes a pioneering bi-lingual department with over 400 students studying exclusively in English. The school runs a number of international exchange initiatives around the world.



MADISON HIGH SCHOOL, ECUADOR

Located in Salcedo in Ecuador, Madison High School is internationally recognised for its education based on ethical and moral principles, with personalised training.

Being the only educational establishment in its province to engage in International Student Exchanges, the school also has a significant focus on teaching foreign languages and cultures. This has led to many successful international exchanges in the UK, the USA and Spain.



“

“Observing the activities laid on for the visitors, I was able to see at first-hand the commitment that you have made to opening a door onto the world for your pupils. This example is typical of the school’s efforts to widen pupils’ horizons.”

- Ofsted report 2019, Fair Oak School's immersion programme

“Our students were given the opportunity to meet pupils from a culture few had experienced. They were inspired to do extra curricular work at home to further find out about their guests. Alongside this, our students took on the role of buddies, which enhanced their feelings of responsibility and taught them to plan, organise and care for their guest students. They learned a great deal from the experience and I would highly recommend other schools to participate in similar schemes”

- Headteacher, Shirley Junior School, Southampton

“Our students gained exposure to Chinese culture and customs, while making new friends, learning new skills, improving their Mandarin knowledge and cultural understanding”

- The Castle School, Taunton

“I would like to say what a great week our students had, it was a hugely enjoyable experience for all involved”

- Wilmington Academy

“The visiting students integrated very well. They took part in the lessons as though they were our students. They saw a different element of the school each day as they were paired with a different student ‘buddy’ each day”

- Mountbatten School, Romsey



WITH THANKS TO:

- The Castle School, Taunton
- Charlton Manor Primary School, London
- Selwood Academy, Frome
- Shirley Junior School, Southampton
- Milford-on-Sea Church of England Primary School, New Forest
- Mountbatten School, Romsey
- Upper Shirley High School, Southampton
- Warblington School, Havant
- Wilmington Academy, Greater London



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