



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Coordination UK



UNESCO
Associated
Schools

UNESCO Associated Schools

Supporting the International Perspective in your school

UNESCO Associated Schools in the UK Application Guidelines

Introduction

UNESCO Associated Schools in the UK is part of a global network of schools promoting quality education. The UK network supports the integration of international perspectives in schools and promotes the values of UNESCO, including peace, tolerance, human rights, cultural diversity and sustainable development. We work to better prepare UK children and young people for the challenges of an increasingly complex and interdependent world.

By joining UNESCO Associated Schools your school can:

- Become part of a global network of schools directly linked with the UN system
- Participate in seminars and conferences in the UK and internationally
- Receive a diploma signed by the UNESCO Director-General to display in your school
- Receive teaching materials on the UN system and global issues
- Get regular newsletters with updates on resources and activities
- Access materials developed by various UN organisations
- Take part in 10 international flagship projects on themes such as the Transatlantic Slave Trade, intercultural dialogue, sustainable development and world heritage
- Access to expert speakers on UN issues
- Pilot and feed into innovative educational material developed by UNESCO and its partner organisations
- Participate in research on innovative educational methods or topics of concern to UNESCO

To become a member of the UK network it is important that your school is promoting the values of UNESCO and carries out activities around one or more of the UNESCO study themes (detailed below). Membership will only be granted if the school meets the eligibility criteria. All members must submit an annual report to the UK National Coordinator.

Eligibility

- Membership is open to all government registered formal education institutions, from nursery school to university.
- Applicants must show how they are promoting the aims and values of UNESCO and carrying out work around one or more of the study themes (detailed below).

Study Themes

1. **The UN system and World Concerns**
2. **Education for Sustainable Development**
3. **Peace and Human Rights**
4. **Intercultural Learning**

Guidelines

The application should show how your school is, or will become a model for UNESCO's values including peace, tolerance, human rights, cultural diversity and sustainable development. Through experiment and innovation, the aim of the network is to have a 'multiplier' effect on other schools and the community and, if possible, to contribute to education reform and renewal.

Promoting the values of UNESCO and bringing the international perspective into schools:

Outlining how the values of UNESCO will be integrated within the curriculum at your school and how you are planning to take forward one or more of the UNESCO study themes listed above.

Examples of projects and activities:

- Learning about the role of the United Nations and organising a Model United Nations debate
- Developing international links and partnerships
- Celebrating international days, weeks and years such as World Press Freedom Day, Global Action Week: Education for All and the International Year of Biodiversity
- Learning about World Heritage Sites
- Raising awareness of human rights and children's rights
- Developing a campaign on a global issue such as poverty
- Organise a cultural festival

International linking:

Showing a commitment to international initiatives and giving ideas on how links with partner schools abroad will be made and sustained through technology and/or twinning. Links should be based on equality, mutual learning and curriculum development. Indicating any participation in national or international linking events or projects, such as UNESCO flagship projects and shared activities around international days.

Organisation & Logistics:

Outlining how UNESCO-related work and activities will be organised and supported in the school: how students will be involved in decision-making and how they will demonstrate leadership on UNESCO-related work/delivery (e.g. a student committee); who will be the school coordinator(s) and how much time they have; what support and involvement there will be from other staff; how information about the UNESCO Associated Schools network will be disseminated and shared in the school and community and how families and local organisations might be involved.

Evaluation:

Indicating how the projects and work around UNESCO ideals will be evaluated, including the role of the school in the national network; research methods for evaluating the impact of UNESCO-related projects and work on students, teachers and community, and reporting impact to the National Coordinator.

**If you have any further enquiries please contact Anne Breivik
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