

Woodside Academy



International Policy

“We want the very best teaching and learning experiences for all our children.”
From School Mission Statement

Introduction

The governors and staff recognise that:

- global issues are an important part of the lives of our students living in a world where economies are increasingly interdependent and global communication is a daily reality. Our students have access to the internet and increased opportunity to travel, watch news stories from around the world, as they develop and follow for example, international sporting events as they happen;
- the global dimension should be reflected in the attitudes and values of our students, the ethos of the school, the Programmes of Study and Key Skills;
- as a school we have a commitment to both gender and racial equality.

Aims

To enable our students to know more about global issues and to:

- celebrate the rich and diverse heritage represented in our school, and local and national communities;
- understand complex international interdependencies in the global economy;
- respect and value different cultures and beliefs;
- enjoy regular contact with students and adults living in different countries.

Objectives

- To work towards maintaining the International School Award.
- To conduct annual audits of both our formal and informal curriculum which, in turn inform action plans to develop each of the eight Key Concepts of the global dimension through all appropriate areas of the curriculum such that there is a clearly mapped global dimension in the learning experiences for all our students. These eight key concepts we recognise as:

1. diversity

2. conflict resolution

3. global citizenship
4. human rights
5. interdependence
6. social justice
7. sustainable development
8. values and perceptions

By having an international dimension as part of our ethos, we can provide children and staff with a wider variety of experiences both within, and in addition to the National Curriculum:

- develop links with schools in other countries in Europe and further afield;
- welcome to our school teachers and pupils from other countries;
- raise awareness of environment issues other than those in our locality through joint projects;
- encourage interest and motivation through the provision of first-hand experiences of life in another country;
- promote communication through writing letters and emails to friends abroad;
- provide staff with opportunities to compare different teaching and learning styles;
- raise awareness and appreciation of other environments and what is happening in the world;
- develop cross-curricular activities with an international theme for all children;
- to develop and fully exploit a variety of global learning partnerships. This will include activities such as:
 - email and internet projects including video conferencing;
 - interacting with visitors from other countries [students & adults];
 - student/staff visits to places of cultural interest in the UK and abroad;
 - to actively encourage the study of foreign languages for all our students by offering a range of appropriate language options;
 - to organise regular celebrations of our rich and diverse heritage.

Key Priorities over 3 Years

- Further increase the awareness of the global dimension to staff, students and the wider community across the whole school;
- Embed cultural, faith and major events from around the world into the curriculum

Strategies

- Next stage of link action plans implemented;
- Implement international resource creation network;
- Share good practice and develop links with Cluster schools;
- Develop strategies to widen the availability of global learning;
- Ensure strategies from previous years are fully implemented;
- Evaluate success of previous ISA with stakeholders.

This policy has been informed by the two DfES publications: 'Developing the global dimension in the curriculum' DfES

1409-2005DOC-EN and 'Putting the World into World-Class Education' DfES/1077/2004 PPEDW/D16/5819/1104/14.

The policy will be reviewed by the Governors every two years.

International Co-ordination role

Key Tasks:

- To promote the importance of Global Issues and International Links.
- To oversee the development of specific international projects.
- To raise the profile of global issues through assemblies, displays and specific events.
- To liaise with Heads of Subjects to ensure that a global dimension and an awareness of different cultures are emphasized appropriately within the curriculum.
- To keep the Governing Body informed of the school's Global Links and associated developments.
- To ensure that planned activities and projects relating to International Activities are included in the School Action Plan and evaluated appropriately.
- To provide and support existing links and exchanges.

Reviewed – Spring 2023

Agreed by Governing Body – Spring 2025

Next review date – Spring 2027