



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD

Press release

12 September 2016

British Council International School Award success for Guilsborough Academy School

Guilsborough Academy in Northampton 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.

For the last 6 years Guilsborough Academy have been running several international cross curricular activities in Guilsborough which enriched our curriculum and were enjoyed by the students. We worked hard to develop intercultural understanding, did a project with our primary school and organised cultural trips eg Christmas Market trip.

In projects, pupils exchange personal details and discussed the schools and subject areas with schools across EUROPE which they found interesting, having a real audience for the pupil's work and enabling the pupils their language knowledge and subject knowledge for real communication purposes.

We continued our school link and long-lasting partnership with our partner school in Berlin (Herder Gymnasium) where the students shared information and completed a geography

project. In Guilsborough we have a tradition of international activities and in the last 6 years in particular which enriched our curriculum and focused on developing global citizen in our community. There is a discernible capability among members of the school community to express views articulately on the global dimension in all subject areas.

Regular debates and events and themed assemblies have ensured that this is an embedded view, rather than seen as a specific, time limited topic. This has included students, teachers, teaching assistants, administration staff and governors. Around the school buildings we have regularly displayed displays and posters showing some sort of international theme

On hearing the news that Guilsborough Academy had received the award, Mrs Swales, Principal said: "We are delighted to receive this award, as it is a great acknowledgement of all the different aspects of work we do both within and beyond the classroom. At Guilsborough we believe strongly in giving our students a variety of opportunities and the International School Award supports this".

John Rolfe, from the British Council, 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, Sri Lanka, Egypt, Lebanon, Cyprus and Pakistan as part of the British Council's Connecting Classrooms programme. 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

- ENDS -

To interview the school or for images, please contact
principapa@guilsborough.northants.sch.uk

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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