

# The British-German Association (BGA) and Youthbridge

The BGA's Youthbridge network is designed as a localized support network for schools, run by voluntary representatives (usually German-language teachers themselves) at a regional level. Youthbridge offers:

- The chance to connect with other schools in the area as part of in-person or online meetings, WhatsApp groups, or whatever other flexible format is most suitable.
- A forum for teachers to share resources, experiences, and best practice; discuss common challenges; support each other; and identify areas for joint activities.
- Regular newsletters.
- The Dresden Trust Scholarship, providing 100% funding for senior-phase pupils to spend 3–4 weeks at a school in Dresden.
- The annual Deakin Youthbridge Awards, offering cash prizes and certificates for in-school projects designed and run locally.
- Small-scale financial support for German days or masterclasses; language study visits to Germany; and teacher visits to feeder schools to encourage the take-up and continuation of German.
- Access to BGA online events and podcasts.

Additionally, the BGA provides:

- Advice on language exchanges and virtual exchanges (available on our website), pointing teachers to funding and resources from other organisations.
- Advice on contacting local business with links to Germany (available on our website).
- General advice on 'Why Learn German?' (via our website and weekly social media posts), including videos of professionals who have benefitted from learning German.
- Recordings of past events (available on our website).

With the promotion of German-language teaching being one of our charitable objectives, the BGA is a UK institution providing a framework for communication between schools and teachers, thus complementing the Goethe-Institut's activities and expertise in the area of teaching content/resources and professional advice. Through its Youthbridge network, the BGA also gains valuable insights that inform its wider policy work.

Membership of Youthbridge is free of charge. You can find out more and sign up here:

<https://britishgermanassociation.org/youthbridge/>

