

An update on opportunities available to schools in Scotland from British Council:

[Arabic Language and Culture Programme](#)

[Connecting Classrooms](#)

[Erasmus+](#)

[eTwinning](#)

[Language Assistants](#)

[Inspiring schools – Glasgow case study](#)

Arabic Language and Culture Programme

The British Council and Qatar Foundation International are working together to promote the teaching and learning of Arabic language and culture in the UK

With over 230 million native speakers and a further 100–200 million people across northern Africa and western Asia for whom it is their second language, Arabic ranks as the fourth most widely spoken language in the world and is one of the six official languages of the United Nations (UN).

QFI and BC would like to develop Arabic to the same standards expected of the other major world languages in the UK school systems, and as a viable option for any student of any background to explore.

Schools are invited to apply for a package of funding and support over three years in order to introduce, or expand, provision of Arabic in the schools curriculum:

- A grant of up to £15k per year for three years (maximum £45k in total).
- Links to resources with a focus on study of Arab culture(s).
- The opportunity to apply for Skype sessions with Arabic speakers.
- The opportunity to apply for an International link to an Arabic-speaking school.
- Support with taster sessions
- A link to your nearest Arabic supplementary school in association with the NRCSE.
- Assistance with finding UK-trained MFL teachers who can teach Arabic.

Additional programme information and links to resources including our primary language and culture pack are available online at <https://www.britishcouncil.org/education/schools/support-for-languages/arabic-language-culture-programme>

Connecting Classrooms

Connecting Classrooms through Global Learning supports schools in Scotland and internationally to learn about and collaborate on the big issues that shape our world. It is intended to:

- Improve teachers' pedagogical skills, especially their ability to incorporate transferable skills into their curriculum teaching.

- Give young people in both Scotland and overseas countries an opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes to live and work in an increasingly globalised world.
- Raise awareness of global issues amongst young people by supporting their collaboration with their international peers.

The next call for partnership funding is the 25th of March. Schools can apply individually or as a cluster for funding to facilitate reciprocal visits, events and training. Advice and support is available through a network of expert local advisers to help develop a quality proposal. Contact connectingclassrooms@lfsscotland.org for details of an adviser near you.

Teachers can also explore teaching and learning approaches through our free programme of professional development. Courses are available online or face to face. For more information see connecting-classrooms.britishcouncil.org

Erasmus+

Through Erasmus+, UK schools can access funding for life-changing international activities. The funding is open to UK schools and colleges providing general, vocational or technical education to pupils aged 3 – 18 years. The next closing date for applications for school exchange partnerships and strategic partnerships is **21 March (11am UK time)**.

- [School Exchange Partnerships](#) (Key Action 229): Funding for international pupil exchanges and study experiences, plus staff training and teaching assignments overseas
 - [Strategic Partnerships for School Education](#) (Key Action 201): Funding for collaborative projects with schools/other partners abroad to improve education provision and share innovative practices
 - [Cross-sector Partnerships](#) (Key Action 2): Funding to support partnership projects with organisations from the higher education, vocational education and training, school, adult education and youth sectors to improve provision for students and young people
- Please find out more and apply for [Erasmus+ Schools funding](#) now

Brexit update: The UK government's updated [Technical Notice](#) provides guidance to organisations and individuals on the UK's anticipated participation in the current Erasmus+ (2014-2020) and European Solidarity Corps (2018-2020) programmes should the UK leave the EU with no agreement in place. Current beneficiaries and prospective applicants for funding are encouraged to read the Technical Notice, for an overview of the possible implications of a no deal Brexit on their projects or applications and any actions they may need to take. The latest information about the UK's participation in Erasmus+ after Brexit can be found on the [UK National Agency website](#). The Department for Education has also just issued [this guidance](#). We hope you find this update useful. If you have any questions, please contact us at erasmusplus.enquiries@britishcouncil.org or call 0161 957 7755.

Good luck with your applications!

eTwinning

Join a community of over 27,000 teachers in the UK and 600,000 across Europe to collaborate online on projects across all areas of the curriculum.

eTwinning is simple to use, free and offers a safe platform for schools to communicate, collaborate, develop projects, share and be part of the world's largest online learning community. There are ready to use project kits and best practice examples. Many teachers use eTwinning to

enhance learning and teaching of languages, but it can support any curriculum area and is ideal to support inter-disciplinary learning.

You might take inspiration from this years' [European prize winning projects](#).

Language Assistants

A language assistant can make a real difference to language learning at all stages. They are keen to share their language and culture and can provide an invaluable authentic insight into life overseas and language. An assistant can help pupils become more globally aware, dispel myths about what people from other countries are really like, and provide teaching resources and enthusiasm for projects. An assistant is also a valuable asset in upskilling teachers and can develop and deliver lessons, learning and sharing with classroom staff.

Language assistants come from 14 countries around the world and cover French, Spanish, German, Italian and Chinese. Requests for Modern Language Assistants will open on Monday the 4th of March. We welcome requests from individual Schools and local authorities to host an MLA. Assistants typically work between 12 and 18 hours per week, and you can share the costs and timetable across schools. For more information please see [here](#).

International inspirations in Glasgow

Check out our short video from Glasgow on their approach to international education. We visited John Paul II Primary School in Castlemilk, where a partnership with a school in Spain has had a powerful effect on pupils. We also heard from our partners at Glasgow City Council, which is a leading example of good practice when it comes to local authorities creating international and intercultural opportunities for their schools.



In today's increasingly globalised society, it is critical that young people have the knowledge, skills and confidence to operate internationally. We want to bring international learning to life in schools all over Scotland and, with our range of opportunities and resources, we know we can make a difference.

If you have any examples you would like us to feature or highlight, please do get in touch. For further information on any of the above please contact Liz Neil liz.neil@britishcouncil.org