



**Global School Exchanges**

UK School Exchange Programmes 2023-24

[www.globalschoolexchanges.com](http://www.globalschoolexchanges.com)



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The exciting opportunities in these pages promote the educational and cross-cultural exchange that can inspire learning, understanding and friendship between students and their families in the UK and globally.

I know from my time as a University Deputy Vice-Chancellor that international collaboration is crucial for the future. There is much that we can learn from each other and I commend to you the activities set out in this brochure. ”



**Professor Richard Blackwell,**  
Global School Exchanges' Board Chair

## Connecting schools & educators via transformative international collaboration

Since 2011, Global School Exchanges have encouraged over 11,000 pupils and teachers to step outside of their comfort zone, discover new cultures, enhance their language skills, and celebrate what we can learn from each other.

GSE works with schools in the UK, China, India, Europe and beyond to deliver in-person and online education exchange programmes.

Our fully-funded overseas educator conferences and school visit opportunities enable school leaders and teachers to travel, share ideas and to gain a global perspective for their work.

We're passionate about removing barriers to internationalisation, and do not charge any fees. By participating your school will receive funding credits to spend on school trips, online programmes and teacher CPD.

GSE believes that cultural exchange is a catalyst for leading change in our increasingly globalised world. We look forward to learning your school's objectives.

**Tom Saunders, Director**



# Removing Barriers to Exchange

**Our programmes aim to develop the global outlook of pupils, teachers and school leaders, and celebrate what we can learn from each other within an increasingly globalised, changing world.**

**The rich and sustained opportunities we provide are vital in developing cultural capital, allowing pupils to aim high and be successful academically and within society.**

GSE's role is to facilitate all global exchange activities, providing your school with the resources and support to achieve your aims and objectives.

## Earn Credits

GSE is passionate about removing barriers to internationalisation activities, and making global exchange accessible to all. By hosting a visiting school group your school will build credits to put towards reciprocal exchange activities, for example a school trip or Senior Leadership Team participation in an overseas delegation or conference.



..... **School Exchange & Sister School Partnerships**



..... **Virtual International Collaboration**



..... **Overseas SLT Delegations**



..... **School Trips**



..... **In-School 'Celebrating Culture' Workshops**



*"The visit gave our students an opportunity to integrate with pupils from a different country... as well as an opportunity to work on their patience, tolerance and communication skills. On the whole the immersion experience provided was of a very high standard"*

Charlton Manor Primary School, Greenwich

# School Exchange Immersion Programmes

Enhancing the skills, knowledge and values to succeed in today's interconnected world.

GSE facilitates visits from global schools to UK primary and secondary schools throughout the academic year. Such visits create a real buzz of excitement within a school; students discover more about other cultures, practise their language skills, teamwork and communication skills, and learn about being a welcoming host.

Following a Welcome Assembly, visiting pupils and their accompanying teachers are fully integrated into school life for between 1 and 3 weeks, and are allocated a 'buddy' pupil at your school to shadow throughout each school day. They follow the timetable of their buddy, join their classes, and are immersed in school life. At the end of a memorable week, a Closing Assembly is held to reflect on the week, say goodbye to your visitors, and present certificates to all pupils and their buddies.

A GSE In-School Coordinator is present throughout to support the visiting pupils, assist teachers and ensure the smooth running of the programme.

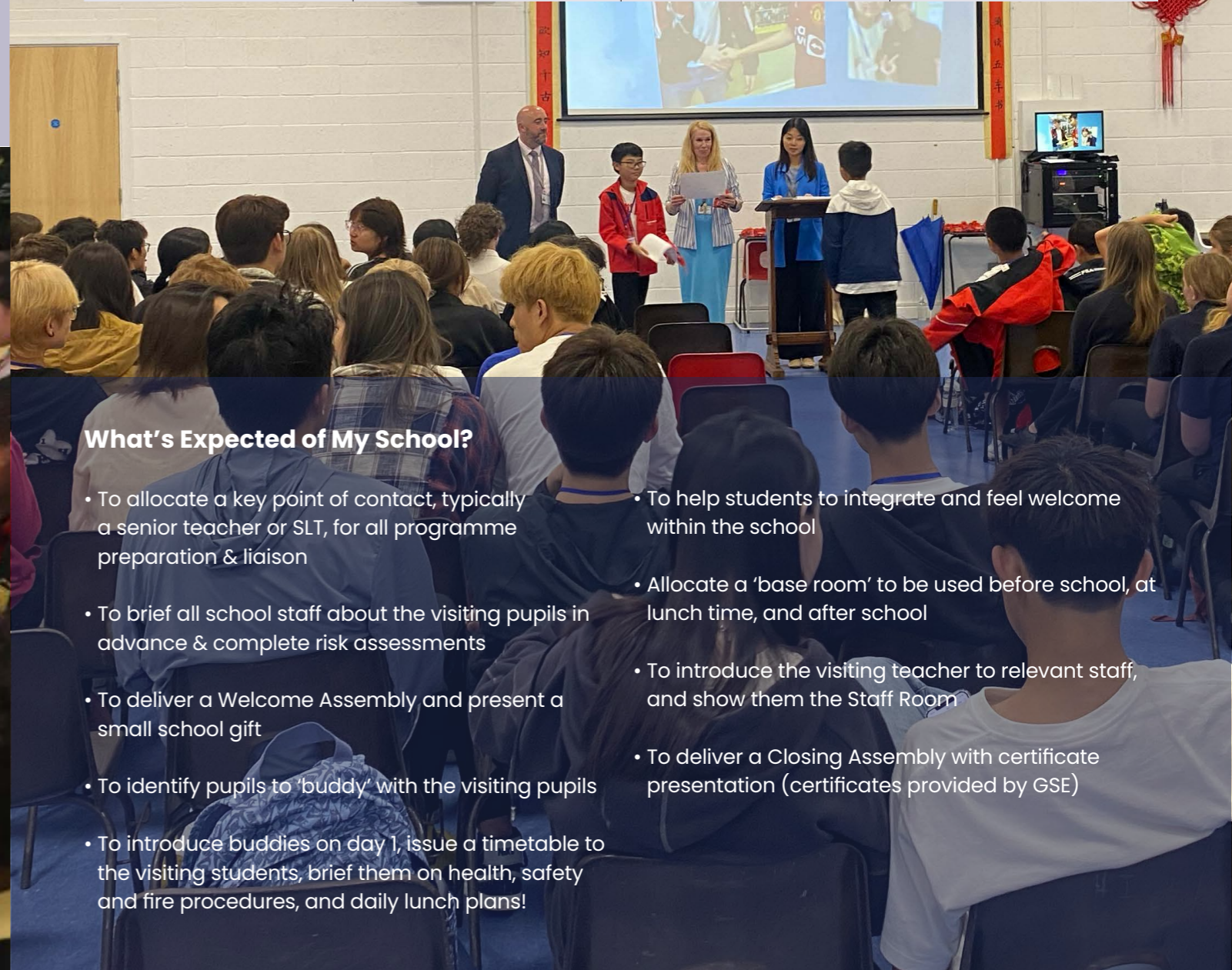
You may decide to include full year group 'Celebrating Culture' workshops or joint project days during the visit. We'll work with you to ensure that the programme is designed to meet your broader objectives.



*"It has been an incredibly valuable experience, and I would certainly encourage all schools to consider participating in this exchange programme."*

**Headteacher, Julie Summerfield,  
Hordean Technology College**

	Morning	Afternoon	After-School
Monday	-Welcome Assembly with Headteacher -Buddies introduced & timetables given to visitors -Visiting pupils join classes with buddies	-Lunch -Visiting pupils join classes with buddies	-After-school activities delivered by GSE staff or join after-school clubs
Tuesday- Thursday	-Lunch -Visiting pupils join classes with buddies	-Lunch -Visiting pupils join classes with buddies	-After-school activities delivered by GSE staff or join after-school clubs
Friday	-Cultural workshop morning delivered by visiting teacher: language/arts	-Closing Assembly with Headteacher -Certificate presentation to buddies	-After-school activities delivered by GSE staff or join after-school clubs



## What's Expected of My School?

- To allocate a key point of contact, typically a senior teacher or SLT, for all programme preparation & liaison
- To brief all school staff about the visiting pupils in advance & complete risk assessments
- To deliver a Welcome Assembly and present a small school gift
- To identify pupils to 'buddy' with the visiting pupils
- To introduce buddies on day 1, issue a timetable to the visiting students, brief them on health, safety and fire procedures, and daily lunch plans!
- To help students to integrate and feel welcome within the school
- Allocate a 'base room' to be used before school, at lunch time, and after school
- To introduce the visiting teacher to relevant staff, and show them the Staff Room
- To deliver a Closing Assembly with certificate presentation (certificates provided by GSE)

## GSE In-School Support

With over 10 years of experience, GSE facilitate & manage all programme activities.

### Pre-Arrival

Before the group arrives, we meet with you and other key staff to prepare you for the programme, provide visiting student information, and issue resources to help your school prepare for cultural differences, etiquette, and practical information for the visit.

Where helpful, templates for the Welcome Ceremony, Closing Ceremony and various lesson plans are issued. A range of planning, safety, and lesson resources are available within our Exchange Toolkit.

If the visiting teachers and students stay with local host families, GSE manages all the safeguarding requirements, including DBS checks, references and home visits.

### During the Visit

A GSE In-School Coordinator is present throughout to support the visiting pupils and ensure the smooth running of the programme.

Our Coordinator's role is to oversee the visiting group, provide support where needed, and liaise with UK teaching staff to ensure that the timetable runs smoothly.

They'll register and welcome the visiting students at the beginning of the day, supervise throughout and answer questions where needed, be present to remind the visiting teachers of school policies, run after school activities, and ensure safe departure at the end of the day.

## Sister-School Partnerships

A sister school partnership is a meaningful and reciprocal long-term partnership between two schools.

These partnerships are a great way for schools to deepen their global learning and engagement, expose their students to different countries and cultures and build the global citizenship, intercultural capabilities and critical thinking of their students, teachers and communities.

GSE works closely with each school to develop clear objectives and outcomes for their Sister-School partnership, and carefully match schools which share mutual goals.



*"It has been a huge success... lasting relationships have been made with pupils and teachers, which we hope to continue through joint projects and collaborations"*

**Headteacher - Milford-on-Sea Church of England Primary, in The Lymington Times.**



*"Everyone here has been so so nice... I am surprised how much the British students want to help us, and talk to us, and ask us questions. My buddies are very patient and kind"*

**Shaun, Wuxi Foreign Language School pupil visiting Barton Peveril College**

## Virtual International Collaboration

Recent years have witnessed increased remote working, online delivery and digital collaboration. Virtual collaborative projects build valuable skills in remote team work, and nurture knowledge exchange across borders.

In some circumstances, online exchange takes place prior to an in-person school exchange visit- however some schools cooperate fully online.

GSE assists schools to build a virtual exchange which fits your schedule and learning priorities, and manage it to your timeframes and goals. Collaborative projects may last anywhere from one day, to a full academic year.

Each virtual programme is facilitated by a GSE Coordinator, who ensures the smooth delivery of the schedule and that students enjoy the activities.

### Example Schedule: 1 Day China- UK Virtual Primary School Exchange

<b>08:00- 08:30 GMT</b>	Welcome ceremony Students and Teachers introduce their school & city
<b>08:30- 08:45</b>	Morning exercise: Chinese students introduce their morning exercises, and UK students complete the exercises
<b>08:45- 09:15</b>	Language Exchange & Song Learning
<b>09:15- 09:30</b>	Virtual school tour from both parties
<b>09:30- 10:30</b>	Calligraphy Workshop
<b>10:45- 11:45</b>	Chinese Lantern Making Workshop
<b>12:00</b>	Lunch time/ snack time: both schools sample 'local' foods and learn how to use chopsticks



## Facilitated Online Arts Courses

Delivered by expert practitioners in their respective subjects, these 6-8 week live online courses focus on areas such as global theatre, music, world cinema and film-making.

Pupils collaborate in small groups with pupils worldwide, and produce a creative output, building vital skills in teamwork, remote communication and project management.



*"It was indeed an inspiring experience for the children. The interactive methods, varied materials and techniques triggered off the thought process among the children which led them to their own creations and self expression...we look forward to working with The Pomegranate Workshop in the future"*

The Mohile Parikh Visual Arts Centre, Mumbai

# Global Professional Development – SLT & Teachers

## Education Conferences – China

### Global Education Conferences – China

An annual China-UK Education Leadership Forum is held in conjunction with government departments and School Leaders. Previous locations include Shenzhen, China's Silicon Valley, and Fuzhou, a historical port city.

The Forum offers a once-in-a-lifetime professional development opportunity, facilitating networking, collaboration and innovation with Chinese Headteachers and Government Officials.

Following the conference, you will learn more about the city's education system and local industry via school campus tours, networking events, sightseeing tours and company visits.

#### Forum Objectives:

- Support the professional development of teachers & school leaders
- Promote the use of new technologies and innovative teaching methods
- Support sharing best practices in teaching and school development
- Gain a first-hand comparative perspective of a different education system

*"It was an amazing conference to be a part of. A once in a lifetime experience!"*

2019 Southampton Headteacher Delegate

Shenzhen Forum Delegate 2019, The Arnewood School

## Sample Itinerary – 2024

Day 1	Welcome Tour, Activities & Dinner
Day 2	Conference Day 1 – Keynote Speakers, Presentations & Networking
Day 3	Conference Day 2 – Keynote Speakers & Round-Table Discussions
Day 4	Local School Campus Visit Tours
Day 5	Sightseeing Tour

### Tailored Leadership Delegations – China / India

For SLT who prefer a more flexible approach or wish to visit Sister-Schools in a particular location, a typical leadership delegation operates for 4-5 days, and the itinerary and location can be tailored to your goals.

Delegations typically blend meetings with local School Leaders and Education Officials, school visits and dinners, with sightseeing tours and cultural immersion.

Leadership Delegation visits currently operate in China and India.



## School Trips to Asia

Climbing the Great Wall. Feasting on delicious food. Exploring stunning national parks. Cycling in ancient cities. Learning local arts or dance. Meeting pandas! Trips offer real-world experience that cannot be taught in a classroom, strengthening knowledge of the world around us.

A educational adventure to China enables pupils to explore this rich culture and history, witnessing breathtaking landscapes and incredible cityscapes during this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

In addition to ticking off iconic attractions, these educational tours get young people to the heart of China, offering an authentic glimpse into the country's unique culture, architecture, history, art and much, much more. Pupils will engage with local communities, and may also opt to visit a sister-school.



Use GSE credits to fund overseas school trips

Every itinerary is tailor-made, informed by your learning objectives and curriculum, pupil ages and specialist interests.

### Trip options include:

- Business in China
- Environmental Science in China
- Technology in China
- Geography in China
- History in China
- Culture & Language in China

### Travel with the experts

We're proud to partner with education tour specialists, The Learning Adventure (TLA), which fully manage and deliver school trips. They're experts in delivering exciting experiential learning tours, with health and safety at the heart of all operations.

### Spend Credits= More Affordable School Travel

Schools which host visiting groups may opt to spend their GSE credits on school trips, making them more accessible - providing a discount for all participating pupils, or awarding full grants to a number of pupils.



## Celebrating Culture Workshops

Enrich your curriculum with a fresh cultural perspective

**Spend GSA credits on Celebrating Culture workshops, which run throughout the year.**

These workshops bring in passionate subject-experts to teach fun, interactive sessions. Each workshop typically lasts for 2 hours, and can be adapted to be accessible and enjoyable for your pupils.



### Celebrating Chinese New Year 2024

Chinese New Year is the most socially and economically important holiday for billions of people across the world, and 10th February will welcome in the Year of the Dragon.

Developed by the Confucius Institute, our 'Celebrating Culture' workshop explores this vibrant festival and encourages pupils to learn new skills while exploring the world around them.

#### Half Day Schedule (3 hours)

- Interactive Assembly to introduce Chinese New Year, and key traditions
- Mandarin lesson to learn key greetings
- Choose 1 Option: Dragon Dance/ Kung Fu/ Lantern Making/ Calligraphy
- Chopstick Challenge

#### Extra-Curricular Schedule (1.5 hours)

- Welcome lesson to introduce Chinese New Year, and key greetings in Mandarin
- 1 hour Kung Fu, Calligraphy or Lantern-Making Workshop

## School Holiday Courses

Our UK Summer Courses aim to nurture students' academic interests, personal development, and confidence, alongside international students.

Offered **free of charge** to UK pupils, these programmes are an excellent opportunity to learn within a global environment, encouraging language-learning and cultural exchange via group projects and teamwork.

Morning classes centre around fun language exchange activities, and in the afternoon students focus on their chosen subject stream in Finance or Global Sports.

In addition to academic classes, programmes include sessions on future success, including further study, employability skills, and visits to UK universities.



**Please enquire for 2024 course locations.**

Start Dates: 22nd July, 29th July, 5th August

Times: 1 week, Monday to Friday, 9am- 5pm.

Age: Junior Programme: ages 11-14

Senior Programme: ages 15-18



# Global School Exchanges

## With thanks to:

Barton Peveril College, Southampton

Mountbatten School, Romsey

Gosport & Fareham Multi-Academy Trust

The Castle School, Taunton

Barton Court Grammar School, Canterbury

Charlton Manor Primary School, London

Selwood Academy, Frome

Shirley Junior School, Southampton

Milford-on-Sea Primary School, New Forest

Upper Shirley High School, Southampton

Warblington School, Havant

Wilmington Academy, Greater London

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Global School Exchanges is part of Opportunity China Ltd.  
Company Number: 07617217  
Registered UK address: 4 East Street, Havant, Hampshire, PO9 1AQ

Charlton Manor Primary School  
VISITOR  
REBECCA MILLER  
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