

Dear parent

You may be aware that last academic year, we were part of an exciting pilot project, organised globally by the British Council, called Connecting Cultures. In this project, a number of our Secondary learner classes were joined up with learners of a similar age and level from our other British Council centres in places like Poland, Colombia, Portugal, and Bahrain, to name a few. They shared learning and communicative class time in the online environment and had the opportunity to learn about life in another part of the world, all through English. The project has been a huge success and it is something we would like to build on this new academic year. In 2022-2023 we will offer this opportunity to even more Secondary classes and we would like to extend the project to our Primary learners as well. The aim of Connecting Cultures is to build the confidence, broaden the horizons and enable your child to become a globally connected citizen of the world. By connecting with other British Council students who are in different countries, your child will prepare for their future in a global world.

At the core of Connecting Cultures will be projects that help your child to understand different cultures and people whilst developing team-working, digital literacy and global citizenship skills.

These projects can involve students:

1. Creating written work, and/ or audio or visual recordings of themselves in class which their British Council teacher will send to another British Council teacher in a different country via Microsoft Teams. This teacher will use this work with his/ her students during lessons for educational purposes. This will be the stimulus for students in the receiving country to create written work, and/ or audio or visual recordings to be sent back. No copies of the student work will be shared and all student work will be deleted immediately after the project is finished.
2. Communicating & co-operating together during a live virtual lesson on the learning hub or from the classroom using Zoom on a British Council device or installed on the student's own device. To ensure maximum success of this unique experience all live lessons as part of Connecting Cultures with Secondary students will be delivered online and students will attend these specific lessons from home.

*By enrolling on a British Council course we agree to our child's participation in the Connecting Cultures project.*

*Our product leads, Julia Jennings and Jeff Fowler, will talk more about Connecting Cultures in the parent meetings to be scheduled in October.*