

Leigh Academy Wilmington

International Policy

Last Review Date	Next Review Date
September 2025	September 2026

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Leigh Academy Wilmington - International Policy

As an accredited IB school, Wilmington Academy already has a strong international dimension with an emphasis on developing the IB learner traits. We believe this focus enables us to develop global citizens by nurturing their curiosity, developing intercultural understanding and respect for differences. We strive to create knowledgeable, caring and compassionate lifelong learners, who have the ability to solve problems, and develop their critical thinking skills. We offer our students a range of experiences that will enhance international mindedness through knowledge and understanding, as well as appreciation of global issues.

The staff and governors recognise that:

- Focus on the international dimension is reflected both in our students' attitudes and values, the ethos of the school and the curriculum.
- Global issues are an important and everyday part of our students' lives.
- Through social media and access to the Internet in particular, students have unlimited opportunities to learn about the world around them; through news stories, sporting events and even direct communication with people.
- Students' understanding of globalisation leads to an appreciation of the impact of increasing interdependence of countries all over the world.
- Wilmington is committed to equality of opportunity and respect for all.

Aims of the policy

To continue to develop our students' knowledge and understanding about global issues and to:

- Encourage students to consider themselves global citizens.
- Develop inquiring minds with curiosity about other cultures.
- Respect and value different cultures and beliefs.
- Appreciate and celebrate the diverse heritage represented in our school and in local and national communities.
- Understand the complex international interdependencies in the global economy.
- Understand the benefits of communication with students and adults living in different countries.
- Encourage greater involvement in environmental issues.
- Provide additional opportunities for the promotion of equal opportunities, racial equality and citizenship.
- To provide a curriculum developed to expose students to a wide range of cultures and activities.
- Empower students to leave school as confident global citizens, who are independent thinkers able to face the challenges of today, recognise global problems and know how they can play their part in addressing some of these issues.
- To continually increase staff capability towards international understanding and the international dimension of learning.

Objectives

- To work towards gaining re-accreditation for the International School Award. To continue with our international work for the next 3 years so we can apply and gain the reaccreditation at the end of the 2027-2028 academic year.
- To conduct an audit of international dimension across the whole school with a focus on embedding these activities in all subjects.
- -To identify and embed the international dimension in new areas of the curriculum.
- To review both our formal and informal curriculum annually to ensure that it meets our aims and where appropriate informs action plans, at all levels, to develop key concepts of the global dimension such as, diversity, social justice, sustainable development and human rights.
- To highlight the areas with international dimension within the tutorial programme at all key stages.
- To provide staff with opportunities to collaborate and share good practice in relation to teaching and learning.
- To increase the awareness of the international dimension to staff, students and the wider community across the whole school.
- To regularly celebrate our rich and diverse heritage.
- To develop and fully exploit global learning partnerships. This will include activities such as: Email and internet projects including video conferencing.
- Interacting with visitors from other countries.
- School staff visits to places of cultural interest in the UK and abroad.