

International Policy



September 2025

Mission, Vision, Values and Ethos

Our Vision Statement:

As an accredited IB school, Sir Geoffrey Leigh 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.

Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy inspires the next generation to be resilient and respectful learners who are successful and strive for academic excellence by:

- Challenging all to become compassionate and active members of our global community.
- Building effective partnerships through intercultural and social interactions.
- Ensuring consistent approaches to develop lifelong learners.

Our Mission:

“Opening minds to Success”

Our Values and Ethos:

‘Respect, Resilience, Responsibility’

At Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy, we aim to provide a learning environment which is both welcoming and supportive and to create a caring, working atmosphere which will enable students to reach their full potential intellectually, spiritually, ethically and physically. SGLA recognises the importance of the individual, values all of its students equally and strives to ensure that they have the opportunity to experience success. We publicly acknowledge their achievements with pride.

Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy aims to continue to inspire the next generation, to provide our students with engaging lessons, personalised learning plans and individual support and feedback to allow them to develop skills and knowledge that will make them successful, happy and resilient to the challenges they will face when they leave us.

We believe that it is our mission to support students to develop the skills they need to be successful in their education and beyond.

International Policy 2025-26

Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy

Through the inclusion of internationalism in our daily practices at Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy, we offer our students a multitude of opportunities and experiences to enhance their global perspectives and reflect on their national and international identity.

The governors and staff 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.
- Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy is committed to equality of opportunity and respect for all.

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

Celebrate the rich and diverse heritage represented in our Academy, and local and national communities.

- 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 achieving the British Council International School Award.
- To conduct annual audits of both our formal and informal curriculum which, in turn inform action plans to develop each of the eight Key Concepts of the [global dimension](#) through all appropriate areas of the curriculum such that there is a clearly mapped global dimension in the learning experiences for all our students. These eight key concepts we recognise as:
 - Diversity- Understanding and respecting differences and relating these to our common humanity.
 - Conflict resolution- Understanding the nature of conflicts, their impact on development and why there is a need for their resolution and the promotion of harmony.
 - Global citizenship- Gaining the knowledge, skills and understanding of concepts and institutions necessary to become informed, active, responsible citizens.
 - Human rights- Knowing about human rights including the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
 - Interdependence- Understanding how people, places, economies and environments are all inextricably interrelated, and that choices and events have repercussions on a global scale.
 - Social justice- Understanding the importance of social justice as an element in both sustainable development and the improved welfare of all people.
 - Sustainable development- Understanding the need to maintain and improve the quality of life now without damaging the planet for future generations.
 - Values and perceptions- Developing a critical evaluation of representations of global issues and an appreciation of the effect these have on people's attitudes and values.
- To develop and exploit global learning partnerships. This will include activities such as:
 - Email and internet projects.
 - Interacting with visitors from other countries, students and adults when opportunities arise
 - Student / staff visits to places of cultural interest in the UK and abroad.
- To actively encourage the study of foreign languages for all our students by offering a range of appropriate language options.
- To provide staff with opportunities to compare different teaching and learning styles.
- To increase the awareness of the global dimension to staff, students and the wider community across the whole Academy.
- To identify and embed the global dimension in new areas of the curriculum at all key stages.
- To conduct an audit of global dimension across the whole Academy with a focus on embedding activities with international dimension in all subjects.
- To highlight the areas with international dimension within the tutorial programme at all key stages.
- To organise celebrations of our rich and diverse heritage.

Last Reviewed June 2025

Review June 2026