



Newsletter

Details of the Partnership

The partnership began in 2009 when David Shipman from North Leamington School received funding for reciprocal visits with Anjuman that opened the gateway to GCP. In 2009 Shipman travelled to Mumbai to establish a partnership that met the needs of both institutions.

In the year 2010 -11 one staff member from both the schools made the reciprocal visit thereby involving more staff members from both the schools to actively involve in the partnership covering a wide range of subject areas such as RE, Eco- Schools and the Arts.

In the year 2012 two teachers from both schools made the visit covering still different areas of the curriculum further including History , Geography, English and Citizenship and also involving other members of staff to get on board as support staff.

In the year 2012-13 GCP ended and the new Connecting Classrooms Programme started. Both the schools were very keen on continuing with the partnership as it has grown over the years and more number of staff members were getting on board. It was mutually decided to involve more teachers and subjects in the projects for the Connecting Classrooms and another reciprocal visit was made by a teacher from each school.

The partnership and reciprocal visits have been a catalyst for professional development of teaching staff from both schools. During the visits teachers conducted observations of lessons and reflected on pupil behaviour and attitude to learning. Teaching staff from the visits have then collaborated with teaching staff within their schools to share best practice.

For example, both schools have been sharing how to ensure that the learning objectives and learning outcomes are made very clear to the students so that they engage with what they are learning and why. Specifically, Anjuman considered how learning objectives and outcomes are formed disseminated at North Leamington. has been developing this in more lessons and have been using North Leamington Schools format of using differentiated learning outcomes to ensure the weaker students are stretched and the gifted and talented are challenged.

Teaching staff have been reflecting on behaviour management and the differences between students' attitudes towards learning in both the schools. The classroom management style of both schools is quite different and it has been very interesting for the staff to see different ways of managing students and the effect of different behavioural approaches. These reflections were then fed back to staff within their schools.



The debate and the video recording on the British Empire Project conducted firstly by the students at Anjuman was used as a model example for how debating skills should be used. Teachers from North Leamington school used the debate as a visual stimulus for students in Leamington to see an effective, and well managed discussion.

Both schools also got to see examples of the other activities the partner schools did as part of their ISA award. In particular, were the models of embedding an international outlook into co-curricular projects at Anjuman and how to share the International ethos with other schools in the area through activities at North Leamington.

Teachers have been sharing examples and reflections with their own teams in order to inspire their own practice.

For example, Anjuman has been developing learning outcomes in more lessons and have been using North Leamington School's format of using differentiated learning outcomes to ensure the weaker students are stretched and the gifted and talented are challenged. Both schools have also been exploring together how to enact a less didactic approach to teaching and learning.

Following on from observing the practice of merging international activities with whole-school activities, North Leamington has now focused on taking global approaches in its superlearning days and also spreading these with different years through the Vertical Tutoring pastoral curriculum.

In both schools, the collaborative projects have helped avoid one dimensional teaching, more accurate education to students. For example, teachers were able to reflect on how the countries developed during the British rule and also how both the countries have influenced each other. The reciprocal visit allowed opportunities for teachers to take videos of students sharing their opinion about their country and its influence, so as to provide first hand accounts of the life in India, which has had an enormous impact on bringing the learning to life.

One of the key aspects of the partnership being such a success is the consistent level of communication maintained by members of staff in both schools. This has enabled the partnership to continue to progress and evolve on a weekly basis. Video conferencing between pupils has also been important, so that they get a real feel for the opposite school. Reciprocal displays of work and photos of pupils in other schools have also been organised by both schools, in order to raise the profile of the partner school.

Mutual schemes of work have been especially designed that link the international themes, skills and outlooks to the national curriculum or chosen subject syllabus in each school. This ensures that both partners get maximum benefit from the learning. It also results in the activities being sustainable and ongoing rather than one-offs and means changes in staffing will not impact on planned international projects.

Very importantly, members of the senior leadership team or management staff from both schools give full backing to the partnership. The headteachers of both schools drive the schools' commitment to developing global citizens. In both reciprocal visits, partner teachers met with Headteachers to discuss best practice and develop ideas for the future.



Exchange work displayed on Bulletin Boards in UK school



Recipe Exchange Project



Meeting the Student Council and School Assembly



Interacting with the students: Peer Mentoring



Geography Lessons presented by the students



Art Fest



Ms. N. Beardall's Visit



Global Education at Anjuman and NLS through Connecting Classrooms



British Council's Connecting Classroom Programme is a powerful global education programme which is an exciting way of bringing an International Dimension into the lives of young people and their teachers.

Participants of the Connecting Classroom Programme consist of various types of schools. In response to the needs of different schools; the British Council facilitates the education authorities with successful exchange programmes in education strategy planning, school management, teaching and learning methodology and practices with their counterparts

As a part of the reciprocal visit programme funded by the British Council, our Partner School's teacher Ms Natalie Beardall from North Leamington School, Warwickshire, UK visited Anjuman I Islam's Begum Sharifa Kalsekar Girls' English High School, Mumbai for a week from 4th August to 8th August'2014. The main aim of this visit was to carry out the reciprocal programme and take the partnership between both the schools to the next level which has had such a significant impact on both the schools ever since the inception of the partnership in the year 2009.

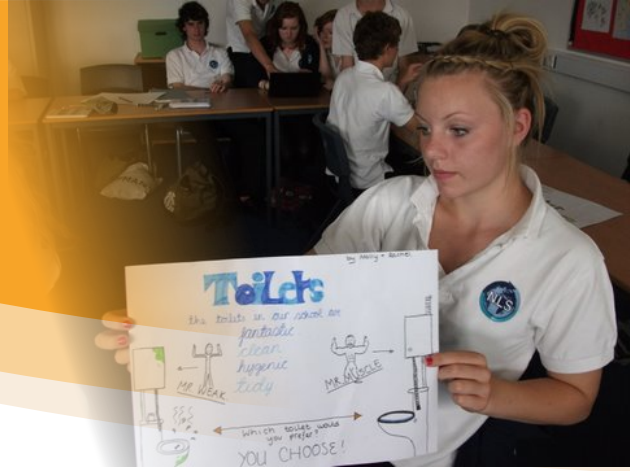
On her first day of the visit, Ms Natalie first met the head Mistress Ms Fauzia Ansari who briefed her about the Anjuman I Islam Institute and also gave her a virtual glimpse about the school through the website followed by a guided tour of the school. She also briefed her about the successful progress of the partnership between both the schools over the years.

The English Department held a competition 'The English Literati Competition' (It consists of elocution, newspaper reading and play reading) wherein she judged the students' performance and felicitated the prize winners.

Ms. Natalie also observed the history lesson on ancient and medieval civilization by Ms Tasneem Shaikh where the students learnt about the remains of the ancient Harappan Civilization. She was also glad to see the students making ornaments of clay representing the topic.



Mr. Paul Cosby with our Hon'ble President Dr. Zahir I. Kazi along with the GCP Committee



In Health Education, she observed the lesson 'Prevention of Diseases' by Ms. Shazia who prepared a power point presentation and spoke to the children about how it is related to the lifestyle and the simplest and the most cost effective way to prevent illness and injury is through proper training and education.

Ms Parveen gave a lesson on the Lions' Quest Skills for Adolescence: Entering the Teen Years. The goal of this lesson is to help young people develop positive commitments to their families, schools, peers, and communities and to encourage healthy, drug-free lives.

As a part of the CCP programme, the Fair Trade Lesson was taught to the students of the sixth grade by Ms Fehmin Shaikh. Through the ppt. presentation she taught the students how one should carry out trade in a proper manner focusing on developing entrepreneurship skills in the young students. The students were told to prepare posters and leaflets on the same. Ms Parveen also conducted a lesson on the 'Role of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the nation during the British rule'. The students wrote a report, an essay and also had an interesting Notice Board Display. Similar activities were also conducted in our UK Partner School.

It is very important for a teacher to know how to manage a class. Based on this Ms Nazneen conducted a session on Effective Classroom Management Technique during Teachers' Collaborative Time. Our guest Ms Natalie Beardall was also a part of this and she also shared some fantastic techniques they practice in the UK. Subsequently Ms Natalie also observed the Science, English, Personality Development and Geography lessons too. She also interacted with the student council which is also a very valued partnership plan on Student Leadership in both the Schools.

On the last day a Talent Hunt competition was organized to unveil the hidden talents among students. The event intended to promote competition and creativity amongst students. Students of standard V-VII and VIII-X participated in the junior and the senior group competition which consisted of decorative flower making, mehendi design, salad dressing, jewelry design, pot painting, face painting, fabric painting, making articles of waste. Ms Natalie appreciated the efforts made by students. Through these reciprocal visits over all these 6 years, a large number of staff members have been involved in both the schools, where they exchange the best of the educational practices and share their expertise on the topics alike. The students in both the schools have also been mutually benefitted and have great fun doing the activities with their peers from partner school through exchange of work, questionnaires, lessons, stories, videos, skype, etc.

Successful partnerships have thus profound lasting impact on the professional development for teachers, and an opportunity to share best practices with colleagues.

Whilst her visit at Anjuman, Ms Natalie Beardall quoted 'I have had a fantastic experience at Anjuman, the teachers and children have been extremely welcoming. I have been very impressed with the work ethic of the children, it is clear that they value education immensely, which is something I believe children in the UK can learn a lot from'.

