

COLCHESTER SIXTH FORM COLLEGE
EUROPEAN & INTERNATIONAL POLICY

The governors and staff recognise that global issues are an important part of the lives of our students living in a world where economies are increasingly interdependent and global communication is a daily reality.

The aim of the College's International Curriculum Policy is to:

1. Strengthen young people's sense of both a European and an international identity.
2. Make young people more aware of the diverse cultural, economic, historical and social aspects of Europe and the world; and how they are reflected in the College and local community.
3. Provide young people with the skills, knowledge and understanding to take part in the economic, social and cultural developments in Europe and the world.
4. Foster tolerance and understanding, as guided by the college Equality & Diversity Policy and Prevent Strategy.

The College commitment to an international dimension cannot be viewed as a 'bolt-on' addition to the curriculum but should be seen as an integral part of it. The International Dimension impacts on overall curriculum content, specific courses and on the range of support activities for staff and students. Clearly, to successfully deliver the international policy, staff require knowledge and understandings of the international dimension, together with appropriate resources and including international contacts. To this end the College:

- a) Has created a specific role of 'European and International Initiatives Co-ordinator', to work closely with representatives from bodies such as the College Management Team and Governing Body, the College Student Culture Committee and The College International Working Party, as well as foster links with a large number of like-minded schools around Europe and the world.
- b) Has embarked on appropriate staff INSET
- c) Has encouraged educational visits to a wide range of countries by a variety of departments.
- d) Fosters greater levels of international 'progression'
- e) Aims to become an ambassador and reference point for international activities for other educational institutions.

Policy Guidelines

Within this framework the College's International Curriculum Policy aims to work with students, seeking their feedback where possible, to:

1. Help students acquire a view of Europe and the world as a multi-cultural community that includes the UK.
2. Encourage awareness of the variety of international histories, geographies and cultures.
3. Celebrate the variety of international histories, geographies and cultures represented within college.
4. Encouraging global citizenship by preparing young people to take part in the economic and social development of Europe and the world, make them aware of the opportunities and challenges that arise.
5. Encourage interest in and improve competence in other languages.
6. Impart knowledge of political, economic and social developments in Europe and the world, past, present and future.
7. Promote a sense of global identity, through first-hand experience of other countries where appropriate.
8. Promote an understanding of the interdependence within Europe, and with the rest of the world.
9. Encourage a greater awareness and experience of career opportunities within Europe and the world.

Also, in terms of strategy, our main priorities are as follows

- 1) Continue to actively promote and preserve international thinking, awareness, links, activities and ethos – in the context of a changing international outlook in Europe and beyond
- 2) Further work to support and respond to student-led initiatives, working closely with groups such as the College Culture Committee and the Friends Not Foes Group to respond to contemporary issues and concerns
- 3) Consolidation of our "College of Sanctuary" status, working with Colchester Council and others
- 4) Further develop and embed the college wide tutorial activity for all students as part of their weekly tutorial programme
- 5) Work further with the British Council in maintaining the International Schools Award
- 6) Full and safe re-establishment of opportunities to broaden international awareness via events, field trips and activities, both abroad and within college – that have been restricted by the covid-pandemic
- 7) Further develop the integration of international issues and awareness into the college curriculum via activities such as inset sessions
- 8) Work to develop links with other institutions, both in the UK and abroad

Reviewed July '21