



SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

# Scottish Executive Education Department

## International Opportunities within Scottish Education and Training 2004–2005

## INTRODUCTION

Given recent world events, the role of education in preparing our young people to be outward looking citizens of the world is becoming ever more important. The Scottish Executive is concerned to ensure that Scotland takes full advantage of the many opportunities available to pupils, students, teachers and others in education and training on the international stage.

This booklet provides a first stop, basic information resource on a range of international opportunities that are available to the education, training, youth and community learning and development sectors in Scotland. Details of where further information can be obtained are included at relevant points. There are several Agencies which can offer full advice and information to all those interested in exploring the exciting possibilities open to us in Scotland to work and/or study abroad – details of what they can offer, their addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses and, where appropriate, websites are also given. We expect that after identifying an area of work or a possible funding source, the reader of this booklet will contact the agency direct for full details of how to go about accessing the assistance they need.

This booklet is updated annually and distributed to every school, college and higher education institute in Scotland. It can also be viewed on the Scottish Executive website [www.scotland.gov.uk](http://www.scotland.gov.uk). Any comments or views on any aspect of this booklet will be welcomed by the design team and any improvements will be incorporated in the next version. Please address them to [jacqueline.yule@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:jacqueline.yule@scotland.gsi.gov.uk) or to:

Scottish Executive Education Department  
Information, Analysis & Communications Division  
Policy Support Unit – International Relations  
Victoria Quay  
EDINBURGH  
EH6 6QQ  
Telephone number – 0131 244 0897  
Fax number – 0131 244 0354

We hope that you find the 2004-2005 edition of International Opportunities within Scottish Education and Training both useful and informative.

SEED-IAC-Policy Support Unit – International Relations  
August 2004

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## 1. INFORMATION GRID

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Lingua		*			9
Grundtvig	*	*	*		7
Minerva		*			7
Socrates	*	*	*		4
Youth			*		8
IAESTE			*	*	26
Connect Youth-youth exchange			*	*	27
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**2. KEY WORD SEARCH**

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YOUTH	8
Comenius	12
Erasmus	24
Europass	9
Grundtvig	7
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English language assistant	25
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ICT	4, 8 & 18
Fulbright Teacher Exchange with the USA	10
Teacher Exchange Europe	10
International Study visit	11
Disadvantage	5
In-service training/CPD	12, 13, 18, 30, 31 & 34
Joint Actions	4, 6 & 8
Mobility	9, 15, 21, 26 & 32
Young people	5, 8, 15-17, 19-22 & 27
Pilot projects	4, 5 & 8
Vocational Training	5, 6 & 9
Voluntary	8, 9 & 27
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### 3 EUROPEAN FUNDING PROGRAMMES

Many opportunities arise through the European programmes SOCRATES, LEONARDO and YOUTH. All three of these programmes began their current phases in 2000. The contact point listed for each area will be happy to provide up to date information and advice.

#### 3.1 SOCRATES

SOCRATES is the European Union's action programme in the field of education. The programme aims to support the participating countries' policies to improve the quality of education and encourage lifelong learning. The second phase of the SOCRATES programme runs from January 2000 to December 2006 and comprises eight Actions:

- Comenius (school education)
- Erasmus (higher education)
- Grundtvig (adult education and other educational pathways)
- Lingua (the learning of foreign languages)
- Minerva (Open and Distance Learning and ICT in education)
- Observation and Innovation
- Joint Actions
- Accompanying Measures

The following broad types of activity may be supported:

- Mobility of pupils, students, teachers and lecturers
- The use of ICT in education
- The development of Networks to facilitate the exchange of experience and good practice
- Promoting foreign language skills and inter-cultural understanding
- Transnational pilot projects designed to develop innovative teaching, training and assessment materials
- Observation and analysis of education policies and systems

#### Joint Actions

The emphasis on lifelong learning and the increasing convergence of training and education call for greater cohesion between Community programmes. Under Joint Actions, possibilities exist for pilot projects which work across SOCRATES, LEONARDO and YOUTH programmes. A Call for proposals will be issued by the European Commission which details such aspects as selection criteria, application procedures and support available.

Details and the deadline for applications can be accessed at [http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/calls/joint/jointact\\_en.html](http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/calls/joint/jointact_en.html)

Further information may be obtained from the British Council Scotland, full contact details are given in [Chapter 5.1, page 30](#).

### 3.2 LEONARDO DA VINCI

LEONARDO da Vinci is the European Commission's main action programme in the field of vocational training. The programme's aim is to support Member States' policies to improve the quality of vocational systems and their capacity for innovation through transnational partnerships.

LEONARDO II lasts for seven years: from January 2000 to December 2006. This programme is much simpler than the original LEONARDO programme, focusing on three main objectives:

- Improve the skills and competencies of people, especially young people, in initial vocational training through for example, work-linked training and apprenticeship
- Improve the quality of, and access to, continuing vocational training and lifelong learning
- Promote innovation through training, to improve competitiveness and entrepreneurship, and to foster co-operation and partnership

Particular attention will be paid to people at a disadvantage in the labour market and the promotion of equality. The use of ICT is actively encouraged throughout the whole programme. These actions will be implemented through the following types of measures, in the form of transnational operations that may combine several of the measures:

- Support for the transnational mobility of people undergoing vocational training, especially young people, and for those responsible for training
- Support for pilot projects based on transnational partnership designed to develop innovation and quality in vocational training
- Promotion of language competencies including less widely taught languages, and understanding of different cultures in the context of vocational training
- Support for the development of transnational co-operation networks facilitating exchange of experience and good practice
- The development and updating of reference materials through support for surveys and analysis, comparable data, the observation and dissemination of good practices and the comprehensive exchange of information
- Joint actions with other EU programmes

LEONARDO da Vinci aims to add a European dimension to vocational training by supporting:

- **Placement projects**

These projects provide opportunities for individuals from the UK to spend three weeks to one year working in another European country as part of their vocational training. Applications involving Modern Apprentices and young workers are particularly encouraged. These work-based placements aim to

promote the acquisition of new skills and competencies including the development of foreign language skills and provide access to new working practices.

- **Trainer visits**

Aimed at those involved in the delivery or design of training, grants are available to support short visits of one to six weeks to other European countries.

- **Costs**

Grants can cover up to 75% of total costs.

- **How to apply**

There are normally three application deadlines per year.

For further information please contact

Tel: 020 7389 4389

Email: [leonardo@britishcouncil.org](mailto:leonardo@britishcouncil.org)

Website: [www.leonardo.org.uk](http://www.leonardo.org.uk)

The British Council Education and Training Group has responsibility for the Mobility part of the LEONARDO programme. Funding is available for UK organisations who are involved in sending work based trainees, including students, from HE institutions to undertake training placements that focus on enhancing vocational, linguistic and key skills.

Opportunities also exist for trainers who wish to update their professional skills and look at good practice in innovative training provision.

Enquiries to the LEONARDO and EUROPASS Unit (see 3.6, page 9) within the British Council can be made on 020 7389 4389 or by email at [leonardo@britishcouncil.org](mailto:leonardo@britishcouncil.org).

### **Joint Actions**

The emphasis on lifelong learning, and the increasing convergence of training and education, calls for greater cohesion between Community actions. It is likely that certain activities will cut across the education (SOCRATES) and vocational training (LEONARDO) programmes.

Details and the deadline for applications can be accessed at [http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/calls/joint/jointact\\_en.html](http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/calls/joint/jointact_en.html)

Further information and details of the first and second phases of the Community Vocational Training Action Programme can be viewed at [http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/leonardo/leonardo\\_en.html](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/leonardo/leonardo_en.html)



### 3.3 GRUNDTVIG

Grundtvig is the action of SOCRATES which aims to strengthen the European dimension in adult education and lifelong learning. It targets adult learners, teachers and trainers in both formal and non-formal education across Europe in a range of projects and initiatives, and reflects a commitment at national and European level to ensure learning opportunities continue throughout life.

- **European Co-operation projects (Grundtvig 1)**

Partnerships of organisations which develop teaching and training materials and approaches in adult education, awareness raising activities and methods for assessing and recognising adult learning.

- **Learning Partnerships (Grundtvig 2)**

Partnerships involving adult learners who work together with other learners from across Europe on projects of common interest.

- **Training grants (Grundtvig 3)**

For staff involved in adult education to undertake training courses and activities abroad.

- **Networks**

Supporting networks of organisations involved in Grundtvig, enabling them to share best practice, exchange information and ideas and support the development of further projects.

For further information please contact

Tel: 0131 524 5721

Email: [joe.wake@britishcouncil.org](mailto:joe.wake@britishcouncil.org)

Website: <http://www2.britishcouncil.org/socrates>

### 3.4 MINERVA

Minerva supports innovation in Open and Distance Learning (ODL) and the use of information and communication technology (ICT) in education. Its main aims are to promote understanding of the role of ODL and ICT in education, to ensure a balance between pedagogical and technological input in the development and use of ICT-based tools, and to open up access to ODL and ICT to learners of all ages, levels and abilities across Europe.

Projects supported under Minerva may aim to produce new learning approaches and tools or to survey and analyse particular aspects of the role of ODL and ICT in education.

For further information please contact

Tel: 0207 389 4517

Email: [joe.wake@britishcouncil.org](mailto:joe.wake@britishcouncil.org)

Website: [www.socrates-uk.net](http://www.socrates-uk.net)

### 3.5 YOUTH

YOUTH is the European Commission's main action programme in the youth field and in the promotion of informal education and lifelong learning. The programme particularly assists young people who, for cultural, social, physical, economic or geographical reasons find it more difficult to participate in programmes at Community, national, regional or local level.

YOUTH lasts for seven years; from January 2000 to December 2006 and has 5 actions:

1. Youth for Europe
2. European Voluntary Service
3. Youth Initiatives
4. Joint Actions
5. Support measures

These actions will be implemented through the following types of measures, in the form of transnational operations that may combine several of the measures:

- Support for the transnational mobility of young people
- Support for the use of information and communication technologies (ICT) in the youth field
- Support for the development of European level co-operation networks permitting mutual exchanges of experience and good practice
- Promotion of language skills and understanding of different cultures
- Support for pilot projects based on transnational partnership designed to develop innovation and quality in the youth field
- Development at Community level of methods for analysis, follow-up and dissemination of good practice of youth policies and their evolution (eg Databases, key figures, mutual knowledge of "systems")

#### Joint Actions

The emphasis on lifelong learning, and the increasing convergence of training and education, calls for greater cohesion between Community Actions. It is likely that certain activities will cut across the education (SOCRATES) and YOUTH programmes. Details and the deadline for applications can be accessed at

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/calls/joint/jointact\\_en.html](http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/calls/joint/jointact_en.html)

Further information can be found on the Connect Youth website  
[www.connectyouthinternational.com](http://www.connectyouthinternational.com)

### 3.6 EUROPASS

EUROPASS, the Community Initiative that came into effect on 1st January 2000 is a passport like document which sets out to assist mobility by providing a transparent and voluntary means of recording periods of training undertaken by trainees outside the Member State in which their training is based. The European Pathway (a period of work linked training in another Member State) must be part of a structured vocational training programme. Like a European "Record of Achievement", it outlines key skills and activities completed by the students during their placements.

For more information please contact

Tel: 0207 389 4389

Email: [europass@britishcouncil.org](mailto:europass@britishcouncil.org)

Website: [www.europass-uk.co.uk](http://www.europass-uk.co.uk)

### 3.7 LINGUA

LINGUA underpins the language learning objectives that characterise several Socrates actions. It aims to support linguistic diversity, promote lifelong learning of foreign languages and enhance the quality of language teaching and learning. It supports projects which develop products and approaches that will raise awareness of the advantages of and motivation for language learning (Lingua 1). There is a particular commitment to language learning at an early age. It also supports partnerships developing innovative tools and materials for use by language learners (Lingua 2).

For more information please contact

Tel: 0131 524 5721

Email: [joe.wake@britishcouncil.org](mailto:joe.wake@britishcouncil.org)

## 4.1 INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

### Teacher Exchange and International Study Visit opportunities

**British Council Scotland, Developing Effective International Education Practice (DEIEP) and the League for the Exchange for Commonwealth Teachers (LECT) offer the following services and programmes to teachers, education providers and staff working in Primary and Secondary schools:**

#### 4.1.1 Fulbright Teacher and Administrator Exchange with the USA

An exchange offers enormous benefits in terms of both personal and professional development. Increased confidence, motivation and a refreshed approach are some of the advantages that have been reported. Schools have the opportunity for exposure to another system and culture and long term links can result. Participants work in all levels and sectors of the education system from kindergarten to further education and in all subject areas. Many undertake their partners' duties exactly. In other cases more flexible arrangements are made. There is now greater flexibility with shorter-term exchanges and head teacher work-shadowing.

All teachers and lecturers participating in a study visit or exchange are required to submit a final report. For short-term exchanges this is a report of 1500 words and for one year it is 2500.

(NB DEIEP consortium authorities in Scotland have specific requirements for their teachers)

For further information please contact

Fulbright Teacher Exchange  
Education and Training Group  
British Council  
Norwich Union House  
7 Fountain Street  
Belfast BT1 5EG

#### 4.1.2 Teacher Exchange Europe

This programme is open to teachers of modern languages who wish to exchange posts with a teacher in France, Germany or Spain. Candidates are required to identify their own partner, and may exchange for 6 weeks, one term or an academic year. Benefits include an opportunity to refresh language skills and cultural knowledge of the host country, develop school links and exchanges, gather resources and exchange materials. You retain your UK salary while abroad. The British Council offers advice via its website, and handles the official paperwork and travel grant relating to the exchange.

The closing date is normally in spring each year for the following academic year.

For further information please contact the London office at  
<http://www.britishcouncil.org/education/teachers/txeurope.htm>

Teachers Programmes  
British Council  
Education & Training Group  
10 Spring Gardens  
London SW1A 2BN

Tel: 020 7389 4916

Email: [teachers.programmes@britishcouncil.org](mailto:teachers.programmes@britishcouncil.org)

<http://www.britishcouncil.org/education/teachers/txeurope.htm>

#### **4.1.3 International Study Visits**

British Council Scotland and DEIEP provide opportunities for facilitating the study of particular aspects of a foreign educational system.

The League for the Exchange of Commonwealth Teachers (LECT) facilitates a number of visits and exchange opportunities among and within Commonwealth countries, including calendar and academic year exchanges, short-term exchanges, study visits and job-shadowing programmes.

Full details of LECTS's programmes are sent out to local authorities and are available on the LECT website, [www.lect.org.uk](http://www.lect.org.uk)

#### **4.1.4 Exchanges and Study visits with Commonwealth Countries**

The League for the Exchange of Commonwealth Teachers (LECT) facilitates a number of visits and exchange opportunities among and within Commonwealth countries, including calendar and academic year exchanges, short term exchanges, study visits and job-shadowing programmes.

Full details of LECT's programmes are sent out to local authorities and are available on the LECT website [www.lect.org.uk](http://www.lect.org.uk).

#### **Calendar and Academic year exchanges**

These exchanges are organised on a post to post basis with successful applicants exchanging accommodation as well as jobs. In most cases LECT will find exchange partners for applicants although they also assist teachers who have identified their own exchange partner – perhaps through a long-standing link with their school or community.

Applications for exchange are normally invited in the Autumn term. Please check [www.lect.org.uk](http://www.lect.org.uk) for updated information.

#### **Study visits within Commonwealth countries**

LECT organises a programme of international study visits to Commonwealth countries around particular themes in education. Visits normally last for one to

two weeks and take place during school holidays. Applicant must be supported by their school/local authority and must demonstrate how they intend to disseminate the results of the visit both within and outside their school. The visits are supported by pre-departure and follow-up meetings as well as support for the development of links with overseas colleagues and schools.

### **Commonwealth Travel Grants for UK Teachers**

LECT offers travel grants of up to £1,500, which can be used towards the cost of a professional development visit to any Commonwealth country. The usual grant awarded is £500.

### **Commonwealth Travel Grants for Overseas Teachers**

Travel grants of up to £500 are available to teachers from developing Commonwealth countries towards the cost of a professional development visit to any other Commonwealth country.

### **Opportunities for all teachers**

While priority is given to classroom teachers, all programmes are open to all teachers in school and FE colleges, teacher trainers and qualified teachers working as teachers in other institutions – for instance, in adult education, prisons, hospitals, theatre etc.

The short-term programmes are open to professions other than, but allied to teaching, i.e. educational administration. Again, priority will be given to classroom teachers.

### **Job shadowing for head teachers**

These programmes are arranged between UK heads and principals of schools overseas, the participant agrees the duration of the visit with their overseas partner (usually between two and four weeks). Job shadows can be either one way or reciprocal and participants will usually stay in the home of their exchange partner.

## **4.1.5 SOCRATES**

British Council Scotland – contact details in [Chapter 5.1, page 30](#), are responsible for the implementation and administration of all elements of the SOCRATES programme including Comenius 1, 2 and 3. The Comenius Action of the EU's SOCRATES programme provides a range of opportunities for joint curriculum projects with schools in other countries and initial and in-service training projects and courses for school education staff.

### **Comenius 1**

**Comenius School Projects** involve at least three schools across at least three countries who work together on a cross-curricular project for up to three years.

**Comenius Language Projects** Comenius Language Projects involve students aged 12-25 in two schools who take part in a curriculum project which includes a reciprocal two-week exchange of students in order to help improve foreign language skills.

**Comenius School Development Projects** support partnerships of schools who co-operate on a variety of school management or development issues. *All applicants for Comenius 1 projects (as well as for Comenius Language Assistants-see below) must be contained within a Comenius Plan, which is submitted at the same time as the project application. The Comenius Plan allows schools to place all their European activities within one overall framework. Funding is also available for a preparatory visit in order to lay the foundation for a Comenius 1 project.*

## Comenius 2

Supports initial and in-service training through providing training bursaries for teachers, trainee teachers and other staff. Courses normally centre around one of the following themes: supporting the European dimension in schools; raising achievement whilst ensuring pupils with special needs are integrated into the class; the teaching of foreign languages; supporting the children of Gypsies, Travellers, occupational travellers and migrant workers and those at risk of exclusion or discontinuity in education.

Training grants are available for staff involved in school education to attend training courses for between one and four weeks in participating European countries.

**Comenius Language Assistants** are prospective teachers of foreign languages from other countries who support the European dimension across the curriculum and may also help teach their native language.

## Comenius 3

Institutions who are or have been involved in Comenius 1 and 2 may also apply to become part of a Comenius Network under Comenius 3. The Networks themselves share innovation, best practice, experience and research in the field of school education. Outcomes from Networks could include conferences, publications and teaching materials.

Website: [www.britishcouncil.org/socrates](http://www.britishcouncil.org/socrates)

### 4.1.6 MontageWorld

MontageWorld is a global web-based programme of collaborative curriculum projects, which encourages the development of international communities.

Made by teachers for teachers, it encourages global communication, creates virtual communities, provides practical and educationally valid activities and develops research, problem-solving and communication skills.

MontageWorld is now being relocated to a number of country sites to allow greater relevance to local needs and enable more focused linking with UK schools.

### **What's in it for pupils?**

MontageWorld Internet projects are used for motivating students and creating more effective learning. Pupils become involved in real life situations that require communication, collaboration, self-directed learning, problem solving, researching and the publishing of findings. The projects set up a purpose or goal and require pupils to work with others using the Internet. They may seek information, relay their findings or work directly with students in another place. Other benefits include:

- Gaining cultural understanding of other societies
- Promoting good literacy, numeracy and communication skills, thereby raising standards
- Providing opportunities for pupils to learn about new technologies by developing websites in the learning process
- Encouraging collaboration and group activities
- Gaining a wider general knowledge

### **What's in it for Teachers?**

- Assisting teachers to become confident and successful in the use of online technology
- Providing examples of teaching and learning using online methodology
- Gaining knowledge of new and emerging technologies
- Taking education beyond the classroom into the global community
- Linking to the worldwide British Council network (offices in 109 countries and 230 towns and cities)
- Providing professional development resources and opportunities
- Building on-line educational communities

For further information visit the MontageWorld website at

[www.montageworld.co.uk](http://www.montageworld.co.uk).

### **4.1.7 International School Linking**

#### **Windows on the World**

Windows on the World is a website set up by the British Council to link schools and colleges worldwide and promote international curriculum projects. It offers advice and guidance on developing partnerships and projects; highlights a range of exciting activities undertaken by school/college partnerships across the world; provides hotlinks to other related websites; and includes an interactive partner-finding database.

For further information visit the Windows on the World website at

[www.wotw.org.uk](http://www.wotw.org.uk).



#### 4.1.8 DFID Global School Partnerships Programme

This programme, funded by the UK Government's Department for International Development (DFID), supports partnerships between schools in the UK and in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean which bring a global dimension to pupils' learning. Global dimension goals involve extending pupils' views of the world and developing their capacity to contribute to the choices they can make in democratic societies and in an interdependent world. These goals draw on Scottish documents such as *How Good Is Our School at International Education?* (HMI, 2003); *Education and Citizenship in Scotland* (LTS, 2002); *An International Outlook: Educating Young Scots About the World* (SEED, 2001); and *The Global Dimension in the Curriculum* (LTS, 2001).

##### What do we offer?

We provide advice to schools about partnership relationships and about global dimension opportunities relevant to their curricula.

We distribute grants to school partnerships which demonstrate commitment to global dimension learning goals.

We support the personal and professional development of staff through training, including opportunities for accreditation.

For further information please contact:

DFID Global School Partnerships  
British Council Scotland  
The Tun  
4 Jackson's Entry  
Holyrood Road  
Edinburgh EH8 8PJ

Tel: 0131 524 5780

E-mail: [globalschools@britishcouncil.org](mailto:globalschools@britishcouncil.org)

Web: [www.britishcouncil.org/globalschools](http://www.britishcouncil.org/globalschools)

#### 4.1.9 East West Schools Programme – Linking Schools in Great Britain and Ireland

Following the Good Friday Agreement, the East-West Schools Programme initiative was set up to strengthen school partnerships between young people in Ireland and Great Britain. The initiative has the following aims:

- To promote school partnerships and opportunities for transnational co-operation and mobility
- To focus on young people and their teachers
- To contribute to the professional development of teachers
- To bring added value to the learning experience
- To target the school in its widest sense

There are 4 strands of activity:

- Seminars for partner finding
- Grants for preparatory visits enabling teachers to meet to plan and develop projects within the partnership
- Funding for joint projects to include project-related field trips for pupils
- Two-week exchanges for teachers

Both DFID Global School Partnership Programme and East West Schools Programme are the responsibility of British Council Scotland.

Please note that places are limited on the programme. You should get in touch around October to express interest in applying for May, with projects starting in September of the next school year.

For further information please contact

Tel: 0131 524 5736

Email: [Alison.frydman@britishcouncil.org](mailto:Alison.frydman@britishcouncil.org)

Website: <http://www2.britishcouncil.org/scotland-republic-of-ireland-school-partnerships.htm>

### **English Language Assistants**

Young teachers can work as English Language Assistants abroad. See 4.3.3.

#### **4.1.10 Foreign Language Assistants**

Foreign Language Assistants (FLAs) are undergraduates or recent graduates from abroad who elect to spend a year in the UK as part of their university studies/professional development. The majority are prospective teachers who have specialised in English, but a few come from commercial or technical backgrounds. They spend 12 hours per week assisting class teachers with oral work in their native language, usually French, German, Spanish or Italian. They are paid a salary by the local authority or employing institution.

A Foreign Language Assistant could be a good investment if your school is:

- Looking for fresh, fun input at primary or nursery level
- Preparing older students for oral exams
- anxious to promote a positive image of language learning
- wanting to get involved (or more involved) in European projects or the European dimension across the curriculum
- Keen for students to have the personal and social development benefits of interacting with young people from abroad
- committed to helping staff keep their language skills and cultural knowledge up to date

## What do FLAs do?

They:

- assist the teacher in oral work in the classroom (group work, role play etc) or work separately with small groups
- stimulate genuine classroom communication in the foreign language
- bring the foreign country and its culture into the classroom
- can produce resources or make authentic recordings for use in the classroom

For further information please contact

Tel: 0131 524 5735

Email: [sarah.montgomery@britishcouncil.org](mailto:sarah.montgomery@britishcouncil.org)

Website: [www.languageassistant.org](http://www.languageassistant.org)

### 4.1.11 Achievers International®

Achievers International is an entrepreneurial import/export programme. The project is open to all schools and colleges, though most members are in secondary schools. There are currently 5,000 students participating in over 15 countries. Achievers International is very flexible and can run as part of various higher and standard grade courses, or as a stand-alone extra-curricular activity.

Students form companies and link with an overseas partner school(s). The students communicate on a weekly basis using e-mail, fax and video conferencing. Companies source products, exchange samples, conduct market research, import and export. Each company is responsible for selling its imports to the local community.

Students raise capital to pay for shipping/customs charges on imports by selling shares, getting sponsorship and holding fund raising events. Many students have also become involved in other ventures, such as running the school tuck shop, vending machine or book exchange. Through arrangements with programme sponsors, all UK companies are entitled to free banking and discounted shipping services, as well as a wide range of business advice. Other opportunities which frequently arise are press, tv and radio interviews, foreign exchange trips and conferences for member schools.

As Achievers International concerns real business in real time, there are challenges to meet. Creativity and entrepreneurship are continually developed. Students gain and enhance skills essential to the world of work - teamwork, communication, problem solving, confidence and self-esteem to name a few. As mentors and facilitators, teachers see the benefits for students, and their working relationships.

100% of teachers and over 96% of students have said they would recommend Achievers International to other schools.

For further information and details on how you can join visit  
<http://www.achieversinternational.org>

or contact

Karen Kennedy  
Programme Manager  
Achievers International  
2 Wellington Square  
Ayr  
Scotland  
KA7 1EN

Tel: +44 (0)1292 281818  
Fax: +44 (0)1292 610192  
Email: [karen@achieversinternational.org](mailto:karen@achieversinternational.org)

#### **4.1.12 BRITISH COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD**

The British Council International School Award is an accreditation scheme for international curriculum work open to all schools (nursery to Sixth Form) in the United Kingdom. The scheme recognises successful practice in curriculum based international work in schools. Successful schools are accredited for three years. They receive a certificate at a national presentation and the use of a logo. The benefits are a framework for developing international work, a dossier of evidence, PR and media coverage and a sense of recognition throughout the school.

The accreditation process takes approximately 18 months to complete. The scheme has accredited 264 schools since 1998. 120 schools are working on International School Award Action Plans in the current school year. 75 new schools gained the award in 2002.

Further information on the British Council International School Award is available from John Rolfe in the Education and Training Group at the British Council.

Tel 020 7389 4419  
Email [John.Rolfe@britishcouncil.org](mailto:John.Rolfe@britishcouncil.org)

Application forms and guidance are available at

[www.britishcouncil.org/education/schools/award.htm](http://www.britishcouncil.org/education/schools/award.htm)

#### **4.1.13 Council of Europe In-Service Training Programme for Educational Staff**

This programme is a Council of Europe activity and falls within the framework of the Council for Cultural Co-operation (CDCC). It enables teachers, headteachers, school inspectors, curriculum advisors and teacher trainers from the 48 CDCC member States to take part in:

- Short national in-service training courses (three to five days) held in one of those countries
- A week-long European seminar held four times a year in Donaueschingen (Germany), organised by the Council of Europe with the German authorities and the Land of Baden-Wurtenburg

The programme's objectives are:

- To help educational staff to widen their cultural horizons, enrich their professional experience and disseminate knowledge
- To help them exchange ideas, information and teaching material and establish links with colleagues in their countries
- To associate educational staff more closely with the Council of Europe's work on education

Further information is available from the Council of Europe website at [http://www.coe.int/T/E/Cultural\\_co-operation/education/Teacher\\_training](http://www.coe.int/T/E/Cultural_co-operation/education/Teacher_training)

or contact

Jeff Maguire  
Scottish Executive Education Department  
Policy Support Unit – International Relations  
1b South, Victoria Quay  
Edinburgh EH6 6QQ

Tel: 0131 244 7387  
Fax: 0131 244 0354  
Email: [jeff.maguire@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:jeff.maguire@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

#### **4.1.14 German Pupil Courses**

Under this programme, bursaries for two-week stays in Germany for UK students at Higher level are provided by the German Government. The programme includes language lessons, trips and excursions, cultural activities and a stay in local host families. Students contribute to travel, insurance and teachers' costs.

The courses usually take place in August. Details for the current year's courses are advertised in January; the application deadline is at the beginning of March.

Further details, application forms and reports from previous participants are available online at <http://www.the-voyage.com/e/language/courses/german5.html>

or from

Sian Warden

Tel: 020 7389 4916  
Email: [sian.warden@britishcouncil.org](mailto:sian.warden@britishcouncil.org)

### **German Hospitality Programme**

Teachers from Germany visit the UK for two or three weeks in November/December to observe the teaching of languages and other subjects, and school life in UK schools. They provide an authentic cultural input and an opportunity to discuss current educational issues and share best practice. Depending on the wishes of the host school, they can support the teaching of German and provide cultural awareness sessions.

This programme is open to primary and secondary schools. All costs are borne by the visiting German teachers.

For further information, please contact

Sian Warden  
World Links Team  
Education and Training Group, British Council  
10 Spring Gardens  
London SW1A 2BN

Tel: 020 7389 4916  
Fax: 020 7389 4426  
Email: [sian.warden@britishcouncil.org](mailto:sian.warden@britishcouncil.org)

### **Group leaders on the German Pupil Courses**

Each year the British Council recruits teachers with experience of teaching German up to Higher level to act as group leaders on the German Pupil Courses. All expenses are paid with the addition of an honorarium. This is an excellent opportunity for professional development both with regard to German language and culture, and leadership skills.

Further details and application forms are available online at <http://www.the-voyage.com/e/language/courses/german5a.html>

or contact

Sian Warden  
Tel: 020 7389 4916  
Email: [sian.warden@britishcouncil.org](mailto:sian.warden@britishcouncil.org)

### **German scholarships (Preisträgerprogramm)**

Students of German at Higher/A-level can apply for scholarships to take part in the "Internationales Preisträgerprogramm", taking place every summer. The scholarships programme is provided by the German Government and administered by the German Embassy in London. Successful students are invited to take part in a free four-week programme in international groups, which includes cultural activities, school visits, a stay with a host family, and trips to famous German cities.

The scholarships programme usually takes place in August/early September. Details for the current year's programme are advertised in January; the application deadline is at the beginning of March.

Further details, application forms and reports from previous participants are available online at <http://www.the-voyage.com/e/language/courses/german4.html>

#### 4.1.15 'the voyage: british german connection'

**the voyage: british german connection** provides the British-German youth portal ([www.the-voyage.com](http://www.the-voyage.com)), dedicated to improving contacts between young people, furthering cultural awareness and making language learning more accessible. 'the voyage' is a true bilateral project, which is run and funded in collaboration between the governments and cultural organisations of Germany and the UK. (see: [www.the-voyage.com](http://www.the-voyage.com) > siteinfo > about us)

#### What's in it for pupils?

Information and resources

- a "news" section on what's happening in Germany
- seasonal and topical special features
- country facts and background information about Germany
- an overview of courses and study opportunities
- diaries, photos and feedback reports from people on courses and visits
- online games, tests and quizzes.

Interactive features

- "typisch deutsch – very British" – well-known and maybe lesser known conceptions
- postcards – send in and upload your own pictures
- new forum community – join the open forum or set up your own closed community for joint activities or group discussions
- send in journals or reports of your German activities for publication
- become a voyage reporter
- send in your feedback and get involved

#### What's in it for teachers?

A new section for teachers provides

- ideas for using the voyage in the classroom
- information on opportunities and grants
- advice on resources for teachers
- a feedback option to help develop the voyage to your needs

### **Voyage kids**

A new section of the website, 'voyage kids', is targeted at children and pupils in primary education, and is packed with interactive activities, animations and educational games to help support language learning and promote cultural awareness. There are also dedicated areas for teachers and parents, providing advice and background information for using 'voyage kids' with children.

For further information please contact

Ute Paetzig  
voyage project director

Tel: 020 7389 4480/020 7824 1574

Email: [ute.paetzig@the-voyage.com](mailto:ute.paetzig@the-voyage.com)

Website: [www.the-voyage.com](http://www.the-voyage.com)



## 4.2 INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR FE COLLEGES

All of the British Council exchange programmes and study visits described under section 4.1. (International Opportunities for Primary and Secondary Schools) are also open to staff in FE colleges: Fulbright UK/US Teacher Exchanges, Teacher Exchange Europe and International Study Visits. FE colleges may also host a Foreign Language Assistant (see 4.1.10, page 16), or prospective HND graduates/young staff may wish to work as an English Language Assistant (see 4.3.3, page 25).

### 4.2.1 European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP)

The CEDEFOP study visit programme provides opportunities to find out more about vocational training in another European country. An important objective is to encourage the exchange of ideas and share best practice. Through this European Union programme, themed study visits are organised for groups of 10-12 people from different countries. Participants are vocational training specialists from a wide range of organisations including colleges of further education.

#### What does a visit involve?

General visits provide an overview of training for young people or training for adults in the host country. More focussed visits look at specific issues such as quality assurance, ICT and small businesses and skills acquisition. You will have the opportunity to visit training providers and companies.

#### How to apply

You can apply twice a year, normally in April and September.

#### Costs

Grants are awarded to help cover travel and accommodation.

For further information please contact

Tel: 0207 389 4545

Email: [julia.stone@britishcouncil.org](mailto:julia.stone@britishcouncil.org)

Website: [www.leonardo.org.uk](http://www.leonardo.org.uk)

### 4.2.2 League for the Exchange of Commonwealth Teachers (LECT)

#### Opportunities for all teachers

While priority is given to classroom teachers, all programmes are open to all teachers in school and FE colleges, teacher trainers and qualified teachers working as teachers in other institutions – for instance, in adult education, prisons, hospitals, theatres etc.

The short-term programmes are open to professions other than, but allied to teaching, i.e. educational administration. Again, priority will be given to classroom teachers.

### **4.3 INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR HE INSTITUTIONS**

#### **4.3.1 League for the Exchange of Commonwealth Teachers (LECT)**

All of the International Opportunities available to teachers under the LECT in earlier chapters are also open to teacher educators in the Higher Education sector. However these will be examined closely for relevance to teachers/students areas of importance.

#### **4.3.2 Erasmus**

Erasmus is the Higher Education Chapter of the SOCRATES programme. It is based on co-operation between Higher Education Institutions in the EU, EEA/EFTA states and three Candidate countries.

Each participating institution must submit an application to the European Commission for an Erasmus University Charter, an entry ticket to the Socrates-Erasmus programme, which entitles them to apply for funding for student and teacher mobility and its organisation, and for Erasmus centralised projects (Curriculum Development, Intensive Programmes and Thematic Networks).

Student mobility represents the major part of the programme and involves students spending a minimum of 3 months and a maximum of 12 months in a partner institution taking a programme of study for which they receive full academic recognition. Students may receive an Erasmus student grant to help with the additional costs of their study period abroad.

More and more institutions participating in the programme are using the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). This is designed to help students and academic staff have a common understanding of the different course structures and weightings in all European Higher Education Institutions by allocating credits to course units on the basis that a normal academic year of study is equal to 60 ECTS credits.

Universities that adopt ECTS agree to implement a code of practice providing clear and detailed information to students on course content, level and methods of assessment. A Learning Agreement is concluded involving the student, the home and the host institution and the host institution provides a transcript at the end of the period of study.

Erasmus also provides support for Teacher Mobility, Curriculum Development projects and Intensive Programmes. In addition there are large Thematic Networks covering the major subject areas and issues that cut across subject boundaries.

For further information please contact

UK Socrates-Erasmus Council  
Research and Development Building  
The University  
Canterbury  
Kent CT2 7PD

Tel: 01227 762 712  
Fax: 01227 762 711  
Email: [info@erasmus.ac.uk](mailto:info@erasmus.ac.uk)  
Website: <http://www.erasmus.ac.uk>

### 4.3.3 English Language Assistants

The long-established English Language Assistant programme is administered by British Council Scotland on behalf of the Scottish Executive Education Department.

English language assistants are usually either undergraduates required to spend a year of their modern languages degree abroad, or recent graduates of languages or other disciplines. They are normally aged between 20-25. Young practicing teachers may also apply.

They spend the academic year assisting with the teaching of English in schools and colleges in Europe, Latin America, Russia, China, Canada (Quebec) and French-speaking Africa. Posts in some countries require the assistant to take full responsibility for classes, but normally the assistant works with small groups or together with the teacher and the whole class, encouraging the students in the development of their spoken English. They are asked to talk about their own interests and aspects of their culture, and to provide background information about the UK from a young person's perspective. Assistants must have a minimum of Higher Grade in the language of the target country (except for Russia and China). They work about 12 hours a week and are paid a salary which varies according to the country. Benefits include the development of an in-depth knowledge of another language and culture and valuable career skills in communication, presentation and time management.

The closing date for applications is normally 31st January for assistantships in the following academic year.

Languages undergraduates will receive further information and application forms from their university department. Otherwise see

[www.languageassistant.co.uk](http://www.languageassistant.co.uk)

or email British Council Scotland at

[internationaleducationscotland@britishcouncil.org](mailto:internationaleducationscotland@britishcouncil.org)

Tel: 0131 524 5736

#### 4.3.4 International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience (IAESTE)

The IAESTE programme was founded at Imperial College in 1948 and since that time over 21,000 students from the UK have travelled as IAESTE trainees to undertake course-related training abroad. IAESTE now comprises 70 member countries and remains true to its original aims to promote international understanding and goodwill amongst students from all nations while fostering the exchange of technical knowledge and helping to globalise tomorrow's workforce of scientists and engineers. The IAESTE programme is conducted as an exchange between member countries, and placements are set up on a broadly reciprocal basis.

Through IAESTE undergraduates may secure short-term vocation training abroad, usually for periods of 2 to 3 months in the summer. Placements are available in industrial and commercial organisations, research institutes, local government bodies, state enterprises, consultancies, laboratories and academic institutions. Longer term placements are sometimes available (primarily in computing), but departments offering sandwich degrees should be aware that IAESTE cannot guarantee that the appropriate long term offers will be available in a given year, nor that the IAESTE administrative timetable will suit the departmental schedule. Knowledge of a foreign language is not a pre-requisite for applicants.

IAESTE UK offers an effective placement and administrative service to students seeking international work-based learning relevant to their course of study, encouraging them to take a more global approach to their chosen careers. Through the *IAESTE UK Trainee of the Year Award*, which exercises key skills in communication and fosters management of personal and career development, students are encouraged to take a pro-active approach to their placements.

The programme is open to full time undergraduates, aged between 19 and 30, who are studying science and engineering, agriculture and architecture, and related fields. Applicants should contact IAESTE UK on an individual basis and register in the autumn term (before 10 December) for placements beginning the following summer. Priority will be given to those in their penultimate year of study who are either UK nationals or normally resident in the UK. Students (or their departments) who can raise reciprocal offers in the UK for foreign students will also be prioritised.

For further information please contact

IAESTE UK  
British Council  
10 Spring Gardens  
London SW1A 2BN

Tel: 0207 389 4114  
Fax: 0207 389 4426  
Email: [iaeste@britishcouncil.org](mailto:iaeste@britishcouncil.org)  
Website: [www.iaeste.org.uk](http://www.iaeste.org.uk)

## 4.4 INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### 4.4.1 Connect Youth

Connect Youth is based in the British Council in London, is the UK National Agency for international programmes for young people and those who work with young people. It is responsible for the administration of the European Union's YOUTH programme, which is mainly concerned with young people outside the school environment (see chapter 3.5, page 8). Connect Youth provides information and advice on opportunities such as youth exchanges, volunteer placements and study visits. Connect Youth programmes cover the whole of Europe and additionally there are some programmes with Israel, China, Japan and the USA.

Connect Youth's work in Scotland is handled by

Jim Bartholomew  
Connect Youth  
British Council Scotland  
The Tun, 4 Jackson's Entry  
Holyrood Road  
Edinburgh  
EH8 8PJ

Tel: 0131 524 5728  
Fax: 0131 524 5701  
Email: [katherine.hearn@britishcouncil.org](mailto:katherine.hearn@britishcouncil.org)  
Website: [www.connectyouthinternational.com](http://www.connectyouthinternational.com)

### 4.4.2 Commonwealth Youth Exchange Council (CYEC)

#### What is CYEC?

CYEC is a national voluntary youth organisation and registered educational charity. We were established in 1970 to help young people and youth organisations gain a wider understanding of the Commonwealth and of the value of internal contact in our multi-racial society. We have a 34 year track record of helping local groups of young Britons aged 15-25 to contact, visit and host young people from other Commonwealth countries.

#### What is our aim?

We aim to enable young people from all sections of the community to participate in high quality youth exchange programmes that promote international awareness and contribute to both personal and community development. We work with a wide range of youth and community groups, youth services and schools.

### How do we help young people?

**Starting up:** we help local people get started by providing information and encouragement to turn ideas into action.

**Ongoing support:** we provide hands-on support and advice throughout the exchange process.

**Training:** we arrange courses, seminars and residentials for youth workers, teachers, youth and community managers and young people to help planning and preparation.

**Publications:** we publish a range of handbooks, toolkits, packs and other resources to help groups get the most out of the experience.

**Grants:** we give enabling grants to projects meeting our funding criteria (*Guidelines for Funding available on request*).

**Young people's events:** we hold residential and one-day forums for young people to explore and share their experiences together.

**Innovations:** we initiate special projects and new services to develop Commonwealth youth exchange.

**Commonwealth-wide:** we provide technical assistance to Commonwealth Ministries of Youth to support the biennial pan-Commonwealth Youth Forum (CYF) and support exchange of youth affairs knowledge and experience.

### What is a Commonwealth Youth Exchange?

- An inter-cultural educational experience for local groups of 15-25 years olds
- A long-term programme of personal and group development lasting 2-3 years
- A highly participatory process involving young people planning, organising, doing, reviewing and evaluating their learning
- A reciprocal activity – groups visit and host their overseas partners
- Thematic – young people share ideas and explore issues of interest to them and their communities
- Active and involved - working together, usually on projects of a community service, environmental, cultural or youth affairs nature
- Self-help fundraising – groups over 70% of the funds themselves
- Having fun and making new friends

### Why exchange with the Commonwealth?

- The Commonwealth is a community of 54 nations – a relevant global resource
- It stretches across all continents and provides a unique bridge across many of the world's divides
- It accounts for a quarter of the world's population, two-thirds of who are under 25 year of age, living in societies of diverse cultural, political and social circumstances – but all having common links

- In an increasingly globalised and interdependent world it is crucial for young people to have the opportunity to gain inter-cultural skills and global understanding by comparing and sharing experiences and problems
- Over two-thirds of UK primary school children have at least a second cousin in another Commonwealth country

For further information please contact

Jim Morrison, Development Officer  
CYEC Scotland  
30 Wyvis Crescent  
Conon Bridge  
Dingwall  
Ross-shire  
IV7 8BZ

Tel: 01349 861110  
Fax: 01349 861110  
Email: [cyecscotland@cyecscotland.com](mailto:cyecscotland@cyecscotland.com)

**4.4.3 English Language Assistants - see 4.3.3, page 25.**

## 5 FUNDING AGENCIES

There are three principal funding agencies which administer the bi-lateral and multi-lateral international education opportunities available in Scotland. Details of these agencies are noted below, and the specific opportunities that they administer are set out in the relevant chapters of this booklet. Connect Youth is the UK National Agency for international programmes for young people and those who work with young people. Further details of Connect Youth can be found in 4.4.1, page 27.

Commonwealth Youth Exchange Council gives advice, support, training and administers the grant aid scheme for all exchanges of young people aged 15-25 years with Commonwealth Countries. Further details of CYEC can be found in 4.4.2, page 27.

### 5.1 British Council Scotland

The Education and Training Group of British Council is the UK national office for information and professional advice on education exchange, the administration of exchange programmes and support for the development of an international dimension in education and training. Education and Training Group's principal aim is to improve education and training provision in the United Kingdom through international opportunities for mobility, linking and exchange, partnerships and vocational and in-service training.

The British Council Scotland's education services enhance the quality of learning provision, especially in the areas of foreign languages, communications and other key skills. They add value to primary and secondary education and curriculum development, thereby raising standards of achievement and extending the professional development of educators.

British Council (Education and Training Group) is the principal national agency for the administration of many parts of European Union programmes such as SOCRATES, LEONARDO and YOUTH. The Education and Training Group activity in British Council Scotland is funded by the Scottish Executive Education Department. The former CBIET in Scotland, now British Council Scotland (Education and Training Group) has over twenty-five years' experience of international work in the field of education. If you have a project in mind or would like general advice or information on building international contacts, British Council Scotland would be pleased to discuss your requirements with you. There is much information available on international work and exchange opportunities as well as guidance to teachers on introducing the international dimension into the classroom through videos, newsletters and increasingly on our website.



For further information please contact

British Council Scotland  
The Tun, 4 Jackson's Entry  
Holyrood Road  
Edinburgh  
EH8 8PJ

Tel: 0131 524 5700

Fax: 0131 524 5701

Email: [internationaleducatioscotland@britishcouncil.org](mailto:internationaleducatioscotland@britishcouncil.org)

Website: [www.britishcouncil.org](http://www.britishcouncil.org)

## 5.2 Developing Effective International Education Practice (DEIEP)

This initiative commenced in September 1998 with the aim of examining ways of promoting staff development opportunities overseas, which reflected national educational priorities and key targets/issues of the original 13 local authorities involved in the pilot for the project. The initiative now has 16 local authorities involved. The local authorities are:

Aberdeenshire	North Ayrshire
Argyll & Bute	North Lanarkshire
Dundee	Perth & Kinross
East Ayrshire	Renfrewshire
East Dunbartonshire	Stirling
East Renfrewshire	South Ayrshire
Glasgow	South Lanarkshire
Inverclyde	West Dunbartonshire

The national agencies – the League for the Exchange of Commonwealth Teachers and the British Council Scotland – which are funded directly from the Scottish Executive Education Department work in partnership with the DEIEP consortium, awarding annually a global sum to be used for all international continuous professional development opportunities.

The immediate purpose of the DEIEP pilot project was to identify how certain aspects of teacher exchanges and international study visits could be improved and how such learning experiences for teachers might be brought clearly into the field of continuing professional development (CPD). The wider purpose was to help move the education system towards establishing clear, up-to-date standards and performance measures for international continuing professional development (ICPD).

The experiences of the DEIEP initiative suggests that it is possible to stimulate ICPD opportunities which will have a national benefit to raising standards in education and career development for educators.

There are 3 strategic aims for DEIEP II:

- To raise the quality of learning and teaching process in local authorities through effective international continuous professional development programmes. This aim has three objectives:
  - to continue to develop and promote best practice in ICPD within the 13 local authorities currently involved in the DEIEP initiative
  - to extend best practice from DEIEP to other local authorities in Scotland
  - to maximise the impact for ICPD opportunities by identification of funding sources
- To explore ways at a national level re support for ICPD opportunities with the concept of international education based on DEIEP policy and practice. This aim has one objective:
  - to raise levels of awareness and gain support from Scottish wide agencies
- To examine the feasibility of gaining accreditation and identification of standards for work undertaken as part of ICPD opportunities. This aim has one objective:
  - through results of data produced by DEIEP to contribute to the development of an accreditation process that is recognised within the new national CPD framework

Within the 3 strategic aims there are 18 continuing tasks from DEIEP I and 40 proposed new tasks for DEIEP II. A copy of the Progress/Monitoring Work Plan, Flow Chart and Planning Cycle can be obtained from the DEIEP Office.

Information on the project can be found on the DEIEP website [www.deiep-int-off.org.uk](http://www.deiep-int-off.org.uk), which also contains a section on reports written by Scottish teachers, catalogued under the key educational goals agreed by the consortium, by emailing [cathy.obrien@deiep-int-off.org.uk](mailto:cathy.obrien@deiep-int-off.org.uk) or by telephoning 0141 337 3214.

Any educational establishments in local authorities involved in the DEIEP project that are interested in international education opportunities in 2004-2005 should, in the first instance, contact their local International Co-ordinator whose details can be found in Chapter 6.4, page 38.

International Education Officer	Edna Paterson
Senior Administrative Officer	Cathy O'Brien
Administrative Assistant	Mary Farrell

#### Contact details

Developing Effective International Education Practice  
International Office  
Dowanhill Primary School, Room 12  
30 Havelock Street  
Glasgow G11 5JE

Phone/Fax 0141 337 3214  
Email [edna.paterson@deiep-int-off.org.uk](mailto:edna.paterson@deiep-int-off.org.uk)  
Website [www.deiep-int-off.org.uk](http://www.deiep-int-off.org.uk)

### 5.3 The League for the Exchange of Commonwealth Teachers (LECT)

LECT offers educators a range of opportunities for international professional development within the 54 countries of the Commonwealth. These include one year and short term exchanges, study visits, job shadowing and custom designed programmes. The member countries of the Commonwealth are a diverse group of nations, sharing common values, who represent almost one-third of the world's population, and are able to offer a unique range of professional experiences.

#### **LECT's mission is to promote excellence in education throughout the Commonwealth by developing, promoting and supporting**

- international educator exchanges and study visits
- international collaboration and linking
- information sharing and support
- shared experience and good practice
- enhancement of the professional status of teachers

#### **LECT's programme priorities focus on**

- involvement of resource poor countries of the Commonwealth
- innovative educational research proposals
- involvement of schools and EAs previously under represented in international professional development programmes

For further information please contact

The League for the Exchange of Commonwealth Teachers  
Commonwealth House  
7 Lion Yard  
Tremadoc Road  
Clapham  
London SW4 7NQ

Tel: 020 7498 1101  
Fax: 020 7720 5403  
Email: [info@lect.org.uk](mailto:info@lect.org.uk)  
Website: [www.lect.org.uk](http://www.lect.org.uk)

### 5.4 Connect Youth

For information please see section 4.4.1, page 27

### 5.5 Commonwealth Youth Exchange Council (CYEC)

For information please see section 4.4.2, page 27

## 6 INFORMATION SOURCES

### 6.1 Eurodesk

Eurodesk acts as a first point of contact for European information for the education, training and youth sectors. Eurodesk's information is aimed at young people and those who work with them and relates mainly to European funding opportunities and youth mobility.

Eurodesk also acts as the Scottish European Resource Centre (ERC), set up to provide schools and colleges with information on Europe and help with the development of the European dimension in the curriculum.

Eurodesk/European Resource Centre Scotland holds stocks of books, directories, journals and leaflets on Europe, the EU and European issues, and has access to comprehensive and up-to-date databases. It can provide information on the following areas:

- UK & European funding programmes and organisations (Eurodesk's online database contains over 130 EU funding programme summaries)
- The European Union and how it works
- Free and priced publications for the introduction of the European Dimension

Eurodesk/European Resource Centre services include:

- Enquiry answering (e-mail, telephone, fax and written) for pupils, students, young people and teachers
- Distribution of free publications and advice on priced resources
- A Virtual European Resource Centre – [www.ercscotland.org.uk](http://www.ercscotland.org.uk)

#### Additional services from Eurodesk

In addition to providing a free telephone enquiry answering service and a website, Eurodesk has an information service aimed at busy professionals working in the fields of education, training and youth. This service is available on subscription basis and includes:

- Eurodesk ONLINE – a database of European programmes, organisations and publications which can be searched using keywords
- OUTLINES – regularly updated summaries of programmes of relevance to the education, training and youth sectors
- UPDATE, a monthly newsletter
- Bi-monthly issues of IN-BRIEF which give an introduction to the European dimension of a particular area or theme (eg. special educational needs, vocational guidance, lifelong learning, Central and Eastern Europe etc.)
- E-MAIL ALERTING – calls for application to funding programmes can appear with very short deadlines. In such cases Eurodesk can alert its subscribers to these calls according to their areas of interest

For further information please contact

Eurodesk/European Resource Centre  
Rosebery House  
9 Haymarket Terrace  
Edinburgh  
EH12 5EZ

Tel: 0131 313 2488  
Fax: 0131 313 6800  
Email: [eurodesk@youthlink.co.uk](mailto:eurodesk@youthlink.co.uk)  
Website: [www.eurodesk.org.uk](http://www.eurodesk.org.uk)

## **6.2 Commonwealth Youth Exchange Council (CYEC)**

For information please see section 4.4.2, page 27

## **6.3 Education UK Scotland**

Education UK Scotland is a British Council initiative in partnership with the Scottish Executive and the education sector in Scotland. It seeks to raise awareness of Scotland's educational expertise in overseas markets. Key priority markets for the period 2003-2006 are the USA, China, Vietnam, Russia, Mexico, India, the Gulf States and Kenya.

The education sector has regular input into the activities of Education UK Scotland through its steering committee and country working groups. One of the key benefits of Education UK Scotland is that it works across all sectors from schools to universities. Education UK Scotland also works closely with key education and public agencies.

For further information please contact

Education UK Scotland  
British Council Scotland  
The Tun, 4 Jackson's Entry  
Holyrood Road  
Edinburgh  
EH8 8PJ

Tel 0131 524 5731  
Fax 0131 524 5701  
Email [educationukscotland@britishcouncil.org](mailto:educationukscotland@britishcouncil.org)  
Website <http://www.educationukscotland.org>

## 6.4 Local Authority Education Department: International Co-ordinators

### City of Aberdeen

Mrs Rosetta McLeod  
Principal Officer (Learning Resources)  
Aberdeen City Council Education Department  
Summerhill Centre  
Stronsay Drive  
Aberdeen  
AB15 6JA  
Tel: 01224 346079  
Fax: 01224 346061  
Email: [RMcLeod@education.aberdeen.net.uk](mailto:RMcLeod@education.aberdeen.net.uk)

### Angus

Mrs Norma Findlay  
EDO (Raising Standards)  
EDS  
Angus Council  
Bruce House  
Wellgate  
Arbroath  
DD11 3TE  
Tel: 01241 435194  
Fax: 01241 435034  
Email: [Findlayn@angus.gov.uk](mailto:Findlayn@angus.gov.uk)

### Clackmannanshire

Mr Peter Kormylo  
Advisor/Quality Improvement Officer  
Clackmannanshire Council  
Lime Tree House  
Alloa  
FK10 1EX  
Tel: 01259 452432  
Fax: 01259 452440  
Email: [pkormylo@clacks.gov.uk](mailto:pkormylo@clacks.gov.uk)

### City of Dundee

Ms Christine Rolfe  
Education Development Service  
Dundee City Council  
Gardyne Road  
Broughty Ferry  
Dundee DD5 1NY  
Tel: 01382 462857  
Fax: 01382 462862  
Email: [advisers.eds@dundeecity.gov.uk](mailto:advisers.eds@dundeecity.gov.uk)

### Aberdeenshire

Mrs Avril Barnett  
Education Officer  
Aberdeenshire Council  
Education and Recreation  
Queens Road  
Stonehaven  
AB39 2HQ  
Tel: 01569 766960  
Fax: 01569 768489  
Email: [avril.barnett@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:avril.barnett@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

### Argyll & Bute

Miss Lesley Allan  
Argyll & Bute Council  
Drummore Education Development  
Centre  
Lower Soroba  
Oban  
Argyll  
PA34 4SB  
Tel: 01631 564908  
Fax: 01631 564615  
Email: [lesley.allan@ea.argyll-bute.sch.uk](mailto:lesley.allan@ea.argyll-bute.sch.uk)

### Dumfries & Galloway

Allan MacMillan  
Education Officer – Secondary  
Dumfries and Galloway Council  
Woodbank  
30 Edinburgh Road  
Dumfries  
DG1 1NW  
Tel: 01387 260 445  
Fax: 01387 260 453  
Email: [allanmac@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:allanmac@dumgal.gov.uk)

### East Ayrshire

Ms Jean Nisbet  
Quality Development Officer  
East Ayrshire Council  
Woodstock Street  
Kilmarnock  
KA1 2BE  
Tel: 01563 555650  
Fax: 01563 574079  
Email: [jean.nisbet@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:jean.nisbet@east-ayrshire.gov.uk)

**East Dunbartonshire**

Paul Cortopassi & Mary Larkin  
Educational Development Officer  
East Dunbartonshire Council  
Boclair House  
100 Milngavie Road  
Glasgow G61 2TQ  
Tel: 0141 578 (PC) 8931 (ML) 8689  
Fax: 0141 578 (PC) 8922 (ML) 8934  
Email: [paul.cortopassi@eastdunbarton.gov.uk](mailto:paul.cortopassi@eastdunbarton.gov.uk)  
Email: [mary.larkin@eastdunbarton.gov.uk](mailto:mary.larkin@eastdunbarton.gov.uk)

**East Renfrewshire**

Elaine Pasternak  
Staff Tutor Language Learning & Development  
East Renfrewshire Council  
c/o Auchenback Primary School  
Auburn Drive  
Barrhead  
G78 2EU  
Tel: 0141 880 4528  
Fax: 0141 876 0569  
Email: [PasternakE@ea.e-renfrew.sch.uk](mailto:PasternakE@ea.e-renfrew.sch.uk)

**Falkirk**

Mr Andy Christie  
Corporate Initiatives Officer  
Falkirk Council *Education Services*  
McLaren House  
Polmont  
Falkirk  
FK2 0NZ  
Tel: 01324 506671  
Fax: 01324 506601  
Email: [andy.christie@falkirk.gov.uk](mailto:andy.christie@falkirk.gov.uk)

**City of Glasgow**

Ms Edna Paterson  
International Education Officer  
Glasgow City Council  
Room 12  
Dowanhill Primary School  
30 Havelock Street  
Glasgow G11 5JE  
Tel: 0141 337 3214  
Fax: 0141 337 3214  
Email: [edna.paterson@deiiep-int-off.org.uk](mailto:edna.paterson@deiiep-int-off.org.uk)

**East Lothian**

Mr Gordon Brown  
Education Officer  
Education and Community Services Department  
East Lothian Council  
John Muir House  
Haddington  
EH41 3HA  
Tel: 01620 827647  
Fax: 01620 827291  
Email: [gbrown@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:gbrown@eastlothian.gov.uk)

**City of Edinburgh**

Claire Soper  
City of Edinburgh Council  
Floor 1  
Wellington Court  
10 Waterloo Place  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3EG  
Tel: 0131 469 3230  
Fax: 0131 469 3085  
Email: [Claire.Soper@educ.edin.gov.uk](mailto:Claire.Soper@educ.edin.gov.uk)

**Fife**

Mr Graeme Cockburn  
Quality Improvement Officer  
Fife Council  
Auchterderran Centre  
Woodend Road  
Cardenden  
KY5 0NE  
Tel: 01592 414699  
Fax: 01592 414641  
Email: [graeme.cockburn@fife.gov.uk](mailto:graeme.cockburn@fife.gov.uk)

**Highland**

Mr John Muir  
Highland Council  
Education Office  
Brora  
Sutherland  
KW9 6PG  
Tel: 01408 623900  
Fax: 01408 621126  
Email: [john.muir@highland.gov.uk](mailto:john.muir@highland.gov.uk)



**Inverclyde**

Mr Angus MacDonald  
Head of Support for Learning  
Department of Education  
Inverclyde Council  
105 Dalrymple Street  
Greenock  
PA15 1HT  
Tel: 01475 712828  
Fax: 01475 712875  
Email: [angus.macdonald@inverclyde.gov.uk](mailto:angus.macdonald@inverclyde.gov.uk)

**Moray**

Mr Ken Edwards  
ESO Quality Assurance/Curriculum  
Development Section  
Educational Services  
Moray Council  
High Street  
Elgin IV30 1BX  
Tel: 01343 563119  
Fax: 01343 563478  
Email: [ken.edwards@educ.moray.gov.uk](mailto:ken.edwards@educ.moray.gov.uk)

**North Lanarkshire**

Mr Brian Connelly  
Advisor in International Education  
North Lanarkshire Council  
Municipal Buildings  
Kildonan Street  
Coatbridge  
ML5 3BT  
Tel: 01236 812226  
Fax: 01236 812575  
Email: [connellyb@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:connellyb@northlan.gov.uk)

**Perth & Kinross**

Ms Lorraine Collins  
International Co-ordinator  
Education and Childrens Services  
Room 20  
Balhousie Primary School  
Dunkeld Road  
Perth PH1 5DH  
Tel: 01738 639991  
Fax: 01738 441492  
Email: [LCollins@balhousie.pkc.sch.uk](mailto:LCollins@balhousie.pkc.sch.uk)

**Midlothian**

Mr Hugh Wylie  
Education Officer  
Midlothian Council  
Fairfield House  
8 Lothian Road  
Dalkeith  
EH22 3ZG  
Tel: 0131 271 3726  
Fax: 0131 271 3751  
Email: [hugh.wylie@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:hugh.wylie@midlothian.gov.uk)

**North Ayrshire**

Dr Anne Maclean  
Adviser  
Education Services  
North Ayrshire Council  
Cunninghame House  
Irvine  
KA12 8EE  
Tel: 01294 324450  
Fax: 01294 324444  
Email: [amaclean@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:amaclean@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

**Orkney Islands**

Mr Douglas Sewell  
Assistant Director (Post 12)  
Orkney Islands Council  
Education Department  
School Place  
Kirkwall  
Orkney KW15 1NY  
Tel: 01856 873535  
Fax: 01856 870302  
Email: [douglas.sewell@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:douglas.sewell@orkney.gov.uk)

**Renfrewshire**

Mr Gordon Morton  
Senior Advisor (Performance Management)  
Renfrewshire Council  
County Buildings  
Cotton Street  
Paisley  
PA1 1LE  
Tel: 0141 842 5000  
Fax: 0141 842 5699  
Email: [gordon.morton@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:gordon.morton@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

### **Scottish Borders**

Roderick Mackenzie  
Quality Improvement Officer  
Scottish Borders Council  
Education Department  
Council Headquarters  
Newtown St Boswells  
TD6 0SA  
Tel: 01835 824 000  
Fax: 01835 825 091  
Email: [rmackenzie@scotsborders.gov.uk](mailto:rmackenzie@scotsborders.gov.uk)

### **South Ayrshire**

Mr Bill Clark  
Head of Educational Attainment (Acting)  
Education, Culture & Lifelong Learning  
South Ayrshire Council  
County Buildings  
Wellington Square  
Ayr KA7 1DR  
Tel: 01292  
Fax: 01292  
Email: [bill.clark@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:bill.clark@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

### **Stirling**

Shona Wallace  
5-14 Education Officer  
Stirling Council Children's Services  
Viewforth  
Stirling  
FK8 2ET  
Tel: 01786 442760  
Fax: 01786 442782  
Email: [wallaces@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:wallaces@stirling.gov.uk)

### **West Lothian**

Mr Gordon Connolly  
International Partnership Development Officer  
Education Department  
West Lothian Council  
Lindsay House  
South Bridge  
Bathgate  
EH48 1TS  
Tel: 01506 776088  
Fax: 01506 776095  
Email: [gordon.connolly@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:gordon.connolly@westlothian.gov.uk)

### **Shetland Islands**

Maggie Spence  
Head of Education Service  
Shetland Islands Council  
Hayfield House  
Hayfield Lane  
Lerwick  
ZE1 0QD  
Tel: 01595 744014  
Fax: 01595 692810  
Email: [Maggie.Spence@sic.shetland.gov.uk](mailto:Maggie.Spence@sic.shetland.gov.uk)

### **South Lanarkshire**

Mr John Mulligan  
Education Manager  
South Lanarkshire Council  
Council Offices  
Almada Street  
Hamilton  
ML3 0AA  
Tel: 01698 454473  
Fax: 01698 454465  
Email: [John.Mulligan@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:John.Mulligan@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

### **West Dunbartonshire**

Ms Denise McKinnon  
Quality Development Advisor  
West Dunbartonshire Council  
Education and Cultural Services  
Rosebery Place  
Clydebank  
G81 1TG  
Tel: 01389 738539  
Fax: 01389 738547  
Email: [denise.mckinnon@west-dunbarton.gov.uk](mailto:denise.mckinnon@west-dunbarton.gov.uk)

### **Western Isles**

Miss Catherine MacLennan  
Area Education Manager  
(Comhairle nan Eilean Siar)  
Liniclate Education Centre  
Benbecula  
Western Isles  
HS7 5PJ  
Tel: 01870 602043  
Fax: 01870 602053  
Email: [cmaclennan@cne-siar.gov.uk](mailto:cmaclennan@cne-siar.gov.uk)

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