

International at Hillstone.

What is international?

International is an important strand that runs through everything we do at Hillstone. It opens the children's eyes to their world. From the wonders of the natural world, the refugee crisis, different celebrations, food and even making new friends across the globe, children see how the world works and that they can do and be anything they like. As the world gets small our children's knowledge and development gets bigger.

Why is it important and how does it look at Hillstone?

The National Curriculum in England's aims-

It introduces pupils to the best that has been thought and said; and helps engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.

The national curriculum is just one element in the education of every child. There is time and space in the school day and in each week, term and year to range beyond the national curriculum specifications. The national curriculum provides an outline of

core knowledge around which teachers can develop exciting and stimulating lessons to promote the development of pupils' knowledge, understanding and skills as part of the wider school curriculum.

As a school, we are working with the British Council to create a foundation and a focus for our work. We are in the process of achieving two British Council International awards. We have links to four schools in different continents and have created good friendships with children in Africa, India, Spain and the USA.

What is the International School award?

The International School Award rewards schools that have shown a commitment to embedding international awareness and understanding within their class or school.

We encourage this by supporting schools in completing collaborative, curriculum-based work with a number of international partner schools, involvement of the wider community.

As your International School Award journey continues, you will learn of new ways to develop and embed international education in your school.

The International School Award is available in 16 countries and is well-regarded by school inspection bodies and ministries of education globally.

How does it benefit the children?

At Hillstone, the children come first. We have seen how working internationally helps develop learning and encourages the

children to work harder and want to learn more because it makes the world personal to them.

Here are the benefits the British Council have stated and how we have seen them at Hillstone.

- An increased knowledge, awareness and tolerance about other countries, cultures and languages.

By looking at the world around us and meeting new and different people, our children will continue to respect others and their traditions and take positives from all corners of the world.

- confidence in communicating with people from different backgrounds.

At Hillstone, we help take down the barriers children may have when seeing and talking to people from different areas, with different cultures and languages. Giving children a personal perspective of the world.

- more skills to successfully live and work in a global and mobile society,

We use technology to see the world and link with others in real time. Virtually visit amazing places and meeting amazing people give the children ambition to live and work beyond their local area.

- literacy skills when writing stories and letters for specific audiences

As a school we use writing for real, well. International gives us new real reasons to write and gives the children more pride in what they write and how they present it.

- students begin to develop confidence with their foreign language skills. **We teach languages but now we can use them in real life and learn from others around the world, bringing the learning to life.**