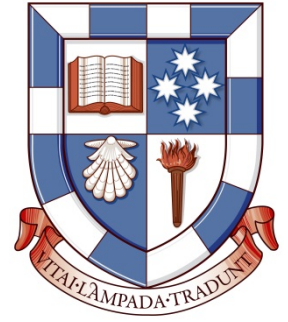




SHORE'S GLOBAL CONNECTIONS



An Enhancement to Learning and Teaching

Introduction

An important element to Shore's strategic plan is the area of 'Global Connection and Perspective'. There a number of ways that this has been developed and enhanced over recent years and the information below brings these together to better inform those within and outside the Shore community of Shore's global connectedness.

For the IBSC Workshop particularly, the relevance of this is the direct and significant impact that global connectedness has on enhanced learning and teaching.

❖ Teacher Professional Development

Shore's program of developing strong connections with overseas institutions is designed to harness the best education possible for the boys. In this way, the boys are receiving an education that is not just locally based in its methodology but incorporates the best pedagogical practices from around the world. This is more specifically done through significant teacher training overseas and the adoption of best practise based on the latest educational research.

Shore has held a leadership role in the International Boys School Coalition through hosting both the annual and regional conferences and being involved every year in sharing ideas through workshop presentations and the Action Research program.

In 2014, Shore hosted a global conference for educators and students, Australia's first 'Flat Classroom' conference. The concept is for educators and students from across the globe to come together and to learn how to lower classroom walls and connect with the world. Previous conferences have been held in Japan, China and India.

In 2016, Shore hosted the Project Zero Conference in Sydney with over 250 delegates, presented by the research team from Project Zero at Harvard University.

Shore's connection with Harvard University and particularly with both the Graduate School of Education and the Project Zero research team has been significant. The Mentor of Learning and Teaching at Shore is regularly a group facilitator for courses at Harvard.

In recent years, Shore Senior and Preparatory School Teachers have attended courses at Harvard on:

- Leadership - through the HGSE Principal's Centre
- Instructional Rounds and the Project Zero Classroom
- Making Learning Visible
- Learning Environments for Tomorrow

There are many other examples of this global connectedness for teachers such as teacher exchanges and visits from world renowned experts for internal professional development arising from a generous professional development budget along with a funded 'Fellowship' which allows for up to 5 teachers to travel overseas for professional learning each year.

The importance of this cannot be overstated. Not only do teachers feel rewarded and valued for their day to day efforts at school but they are greatly stimulated by what they discover and learn overseas and they bring that enthusiasm back to their colleagues and to their students. The benefit to staff welfare and individual professional development is as important as the new knowledge and teaching strategies that are brought to the classroom or more broadly to the School. Teachers gain great confidence from reaching out to other schools and institutions around the world.

❖ **Students in the Classroom and Beyond**

In addition to the general aim of programming global perspectives into relevant teaching programmes, assessments and activities, Shore classes regularly use software technology such as Skype, wikis and blogs to undertake collaborative work with students in the developed and developing world. For example, a Year 9 class has been involved in piloting the Out of Eden '*Walk to Learn*' global project for researchers with Harvard's Project Zero and classes have successfully Skyped with Turkish classes to share information on the Gallipoli campaign in World War One.

The language department conducts an extensive student exchange programme predominantly for boys in year 10 with schools in France, Germany and Japan and the School has regularly conducted language tours to Noumea and Japan.

The History Department conducts a biannual tour to Indo-China and in the recent past has conducted World War One battlefield tours and combined Modern and Ancient History tours to Greece and Turkey including the battlefields at Gallipoli.

Students from Shore have also participated with great success on the global academic stage, the latest being a Year 9 student who was 5th in the International Geography Olympiad held in St Petersburg in Russia. Students have also recently competed in the International Linguistics Competition in Beijing and the International Mathematics Olympiad in Cape Town. In 2015, a team from Shore competed successfully for Australia at the United Nations in New York in the MUNA (Model United Nations Assembly) competition finals against teams from around the world.

The IBSC Student Forum has also provided the opportunity for a student each year to connect with those from other countries and share the knowledge and perspectives gained from the experience, back at school.

❖ Students outside the Classroom

It has long been Shore's practice, in keeping with its Charter of being a School available to all, not to conduct costly overseas sporting tours where the same objectives might be achieved by travelling locally or to our nearer overseas neighbours.

Our Rowers have train and compete in the Christmas Regatta in New Zealand each year and our Cricketers participate in an annual tournament in January which every three years is hosted by the New Zealand School involved. In 2011, our senior Rugby Teams held a training week and played two matches in Fiji which also involved cultural integration and assistance for the Fijian Schools involved.

Amongst many community service programs run at the School, a number of voluntary options are offered where students work in disadvantaged communities. In recent years these have included annual trips to the Philippines, 'Antipodeans' trips to Asia and South America, The Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and Hong Kong.

RA Morrison
DL Anderson

Shore School
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