

Focus on... Partnerships

There are currently opportunities for clusters of schools to develop links across the world from Africa to Latin America and the Middle East. Working in a cluster is an ideal model for the Oxfordshire Partnerships and if you are interested in forging links for a cluster of schools (Up to 8 - however cluster projects are available for smaller clusters too), please get in touch. The cluster projects will be supported by both the OIEB and the British Council and most project costs will be met by accessing external (usually BC) funding. If schools in your partnership are interested in developing new global links, please contact us.

Courses

Courses designed to support schools developing the International dimension are the best way to provide a coherent service to Oxfordshire schools. Attendance on the first few sessions has been very low. Please take a look at the OIEB member Services Booklet to find a course for your school. If what you need isn't there, please contact nick.peters@oxfordshire.gov.uk to discuss how we can meet your needs more closely.

IMPORTANT & URGENT, PLEASE CIRCULATE:

INFORMATION REGARDING OVERSEAS VISITS FOR CHILDREN

For children *visiting us* from overseas there are some important changes for home-stays:

From 12th October 2009 stricter measures are in place to ensure children's safety away from home. The Primary Carer of the UK host family will be required to complete an Enhanced CRB check. If the visiting child is staying for more than 28 days, *everyone over the age of 16* in the house will need to have completed an Enhanced CRB check. The checks will be free of charge as families are volunteers and the checks currently take an average of 4-6 weeks to complete.

From 1st July 2010 the primary carer of the host family will have to be ISA (Independent Safeguarding Authority) registered; a process which will include an Enhanced CRB Check. Registration and CRB checks will be free of charge as families are volunteers. It is anticipated that the registration process will take 7 days.

For UK children *going overseas*, schools are required to use due diligence when arranging home-stays with regards to safeguarding children.

For more information please visit <http://www.isa.gov.org/> or telephone 0300 123 1111

News & Opportunities – Please contact us for more information on any of these articles

- **OIEB European & Global Partner Finding Workshop: 12th October 1-4pm CRC in the ICT Suite, FREE!** Come and find new partners and learn about new ways to make contact with schools across Europe. Find out more about European and Global funding.
- **OIEB Comenius Project Workshop: 20th October 1-4pm CRC in the Island Building, £80 / FREE to OIEB subscribers!** This workshop covers all aspects of Comenius project development.
- **OIEB Comenius Application Workshop: 22nd October 9- 4pm CRC in the Island Building, £130 / £80 to OIEB subscribers.** This workshop covers in detail the application process with tips, hints and guides to ensure your application has the best chance of success, plus the opportunity to pick the brains of a British Council representative!

Comenius Course

School Linking Projects in Europe

Global School Projects Course

School Linking Projects with Developing Countries

The Comenius Project Course and Global School Projects Course run by the OIEB aims to support you through the whole process: from partner finding, through forming a project and applying for funding, to making the most of your project and supporting you with reporting and dissemination. Please email nick.peters@oxfordshire.gov.uk to book.

International Co-ordinator Course

Empowering, Sustainable & Raising Standards

Please see OIEB Member Services booklet for full details of all courses for 2009/10

The Co-ordinator Training Course run by the OIEB aims to develop teachers and school leaders in order that they are conversant with a wide range of funding opportunities and a developed understanding of enhancing the international dimension through curriculum support, international curriculum projects and Teachers International Professional Development. The course covers all aspects of subject management and is open to experienced co-ordinators of schools eager to use International Education to not only enrich the curriculum but to raise standards.

Due to low uptake, the first session of this course was cancelled. Day 1&2 will be combined on 17th November 9-4pm, CRC's Island Building. Please email nick.peters@oxfordshire.gov.uk to reserve a place on the course.