Australia – Asia School Partnership

BRIDGE

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@AsiaEducation
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In the Asian century, business as usual is not enough... The growth and change in Asia is something really new—to adapt an expression from another century, this is a change of “world-historical” significance.

The Hon Julia Gillard MP, Prime Minister of Australia
September 2011, Asialink

—

It should go without saying that geography won’t keep Australia prosperous even in the coming Asian century. Australia’s moment could easily be missed through complacency.

The Hon Tony Abbott MP, Opposition Leader
July 2012, Beijing
A five-year-old starting school in Australia today will enter the workforce just at the time India and China become the leading global economies alongside the United States.

To maximise the opportunities of the Asian Century, and minimise the challenges, it makes sense that our five-year-olds will need to acquire, by the time they leave school, familiarity with the cultural diversity, social and Economic dynamism of contemporary Asia and be equipped with the knowledge and intercultural skills to engage widely in our region, and in an increasingly mobile and diverse Australia.

BRIDGE
AUSTRALIA-ASIA SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS
Building Relationships through Intercultural Dialogue and Growing Engagement
Indonesia, South Korea, China and Thailand
BRIDGE supports:

students to develop intercultural understanding, language and communication skills

teachers to develop skills and capacities to lead Asia literacy innovation in schools

effective use of technologies by teachers and students

people-to-people links that develop communities of friends and learners across borders.
## Australia – Asia School Partnerships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Australia-Indonesia</th>
<th>Australia-China</th>
<th>Australia-Thailand</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>62 school partnerships, 512 teachers</td>
<td>24 school partnerships, 48 teachers</td>
<td>8 school partnerships, 16 teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>19 school partnerships undertaken student/teacher exchange through school community support</td>
<td>24 school partnerships, 48 teachers</td>
<td>12 school partnerships, 24 teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>19 school partnerships undertaken student/teacher exchange through school community support</td>
<td>24 school partnerships, 48 teachers</td>
<td>12 school partnerships, 24 teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>19 school partnerships undertaken student/teacher exchange through school community support</td>
<td>24 school partnerships, 48 teachers</td>
<td>12 school partnerships, 24 teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>19 school partnerships undertaken student/teacher exchange through school community support</td>
<td>24 school partnerships, 48 teachers</td>
<td>12 school partnerships, 24 teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>19 school partnerships undertaken student/teacher exchange through school community support</td>
<td>24 school partnerships, 48 teachers</td>
<td>12 school partnerships, 24 teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>19 school partnerships undertaken student/teacher exchange through school community support</td>
<td>24 school partnerships, 48 teachers</td>
<td>12 school partnerships, 24 teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>19 school partnerships undertaken student/teacher exchange through school community support</td>
<td>24 school partnerships, 48 teachers</td>
<td>12 school partnerships, 24 teachers</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## BRIDGE Participation across Australia

- **Catholic**: 68.8%
- **Government**: 12.5%
- **Independent**: 18.8%

- **Primary**: 28.1%
- **Secondary**: 21.1%
- **K-12**: 50.8%
Bridge Project
A presentation on the partnership between Leoncapita PS and SD Pare Pato Labu 11 was given at the DEECD Innovation Expo in Victoria on 13 May, 2011.


Education Showcase May 2011 | Asia Education Foundation
www.asiaeducation.edu.au

The merits of the BRIDGE Project as a vehicle for intercultural understanding was highlighted at a major conference on innovation in education recently.

ICT Week at Federation Square

Students from Karangmojo #1 State Junior High, Yogyakarta (SMPN 1 Karangmojo) taught visitors to ICT Week at Federation Square, Melbourne, how to do the Indonesian poci-poci dance on September 7th! School excursion all the way from Indonesia to Australia, right? Wrong. Indonesian students taught the dance to peers from Heathorn College, Victoria, via video conferencing using Skype.

This event, held simultaneously in Australia and Indonesia, was one of many of the two schools’ partnership activities. The event was attended by the Head of Yogyakarta Provincial Department of Education, in Indonesia, and the Victorian Minister for technology, at the Australian end.

In addition to dancing, the Australian and Indonesian students discussed national cuisines, such as Indonesian coconut layer cake and the Karangmojo students performed a Ramayana puppet show for all visitors to Federation Square.

Internet technology is integral to the BRIDGE Program which builds mutual understanding and friendships between the two cultures.
North Sydney Demonstration School, NSW

Knowledge Hunt

1. Tell us 5 facts about the capital city in Australia. 你能说出5件关于澳大利亚首都的事情吗？
2. How many states are there in Australia? 澳大利亚有多少个州？
3. What are the flower emblem of each state? 每个州的花是什呢？
4. Which is your favourite kangaroo? 哪里你喜欢考拉吗？
5. How many different type of kangaroos do you know? 你知你的考拉有几种？
6. Tell us an aboriginal story about the koala. 请给我们讲一个土著故事。
7. Sing 'Kookaburra' or another Australian song in front of your group or class. 在你班上唱一首澳大利亚歌曲。

Mt Lawley Senior High School, WA

Mt Lawley Introduction of Students

Jayde :

大家好！我叫Jayde。我上九年级。我上Mount Lawley Senior High School。我非常爱上学。你呢？
我今年十五岁。我打网球，弹钢琴和拉小提琴。我常常看书和看电视。我有时候一边看电视一边做作业！
我家有七口人。我有两个妹妹。小妹妹七岁，大妹妹十三岁。我也有弟弟和姐姐。
我弟弟十岁，姐姐十六岁。我妈妈三十六岁。我爸爸三十八岁。你家有几口人？
我来自中国。因为我学汉语，我想看Great Wall和Terracotta Warriors。我和朋友明年去中国！
谢谢！

Hello! My name is Jayde.

I am a year nine student at Mount Lawley Senior High School in Western Australia and I have been here since year eight. Right now, I am 15 years old but before this year I will be 15 which means I am older than most people in my year. I play tennis, piano and the violin which I really enjoy. I like to read and watch TV which I do most nights.

There are seven people in my family. I have two younger sisters who are seven and thirteen and a younger brother who is ten years old. I also have an older sister who is 16 and a Mum and Dad who are 35 and 38 years old. My Dad works up north in Cloudkmtn in the mining industry and my Mum works at an accounting business. My older sister works at Kmart and I work at Wendy’s which is an ice cream store.

I learn Chinese at school four times a week and I really like it. Next year I am going to China and I am EXTREMELY excited. I will be so interesting to see such different culture and experience it in the country itself. The thing I am looking forward to most about China is experiencing the amazing food and drinking the Great Wall. I think we will meet up with your school as well so that should be great!

Do yeah, that's pretty much it. Thanks for reading!
Leongatha Primary School, VIC

“We’ve moved from being an isolated school to being part of the wider global community and that’s really important in the 21st century”. Irene Beaseley, Leongatha PS.

Kangaroo Island Community Education School, SA

Two Rivers, Two Islands, One Future

about the water in the Cygnet River.
Wynnum State High School, QLD

**Partnership Outline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date (Week Beginning)</th>
<th>Content</th>
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| 16 May 2011           | • Brainstorming using KWL Chart  
                        | • Pet posters worksheet         |
| 23 May 2011           | • Introduction to WikiSpace     |
| 30 May 2011           | • e-pal Matchings               |
| 6 June 2011           | • Analysis of KWL charts       |
| 13 June 2011          | • Assign topics from KWL charts to student groups. Responses to be shared between schools. |
| 20 June 2011          | • Participate in research activity on your partner country “Knowledge Hunt” |
| 27 June - 15 July 2011| • Both Korean and Australian classes begin work on their “Not so lonely planet guide” |
| 24 June - 11 July 2011| • Formation of work groups     |
|                       | • Establishment of timelines   |
|                       | • What form will the guide take?  
                       | • What information will be included?  
                       | • Ensure that you take into consideration the brainstorming activities from your partner school |
|                       | • e.g. Teen Culture. Culture of Country etc. |

**KOREA BRIDGE**

by You, edit your Blog Last updated 2 months ago

Eight teachers from Queensland are participating in this year’s Australia-Korea BRIDGE project. They are partnering with Daegu and Gyeonggi Province, which have sister city and state relationships with Brisbane and Queensland.

On their first night in Seoul, teachers enjoyed a Korean meal plus a visit to Namsan.

Professional learning at Chungbuk University, Wits, Adelaide and Knowledge Hunts were the order of the day!
“Connecting young Australians and their teachers through technologies is one of the most potent and powerful ways that we can build intercultural knowledge and understanding..... Technology is enabling us to move from basic cultural awareness to deep intercultural understanding.”

Katrina Reynen Director,
Global Education (Asia Pacific)
Cisco Systems Ltd
Innovation Marketplace

Curriculum and assessment

BRIDGE

BRIDGE is a program funded by the Australian Government and philanthropic organisations, which is designed to build effective and active relationships between individual Australian and Asian (Indonesian, Korean and Chinese) schools.

Schools submit expressions of interest to participate. Staff from the Asian schools are provided with a study tour of Australia that includes exchange on professional issues, ICT skills (especially those required to maintain contact) and matters of culture. A two-week homestay and teacher placement in the partner school is part of this experience.

A rich process of support and communication via ICT has been established to sustain and build the partnership over time. A high proportion of the 120 partnerships established to date remain healthy. One outcome has been to drive demand for learning Asian languages in participant schools.
Asia Capable Workforce

More effectively educate Australia’s future workforce for the Asian Century

• Businesses must work with education providers to provide internship and work experience opportunities for domestic and international students in Asia-focused businesses

• Businesses should give a high priority to informing education and training institutions of current and emerging requirements for Asia capabilities

• Universities, TAFEs and schools must incorporate Asia-relevant content across disciplines and curricula

• In higher education, students must be encouraged to take up short-term study opportunities in Asia

• Government must support the evolution of school, university and TAFE curricula towards Asia capability through funding and policy

www.asiaeducation.edu.au