



# TOOLS TO HELP YOU GO GLOBAL

Students can share international experiences online

Whether travelling abroad or staying closer to home, **Richard Tallaron** profiles the projects to make your school more international



## PROFILE

**Richard Tallaron**

Richard is the co-founder of LFEE Europe, a training centre based in Edinburgh. LFEE Europe is organising a conference called 'Inter-connecting, the Internationalisation of Schools'. The conference, which takes place on 11-12 November 2018, is open to practitioners and policy makers from all over Europe. Please contact Richard directly if you would like further information about this event or other international programmes ([richard@lfee.net](mailto:richard@lfee.net)).

**A**dvance warning! Most opportunities I describe below are available to UK schools if we are still part of the European Union Education Programme (Erasmus+), next year. Although known for my optimistic personality, I am cautiously confident that all those doors will not suddenly close to the UK!

To make your class, school, trust or education authority more international, you don't actually have to travel abroad: there are plenty of projects and ideas to adapt to your local context.

In Scotland, SCILT have developed an exciting programme called Language Linking Global Thinking. Students, about to embark on their year abroad, are linked with primary and secondary schools across Scotland. The students share their experience via blogs or emails throughout the year, and pupils can ask questions about life abroad, local culture and language.

Online Courses are another way of internationalising your curriculum: recently, PowerLanguage successfully



piloted an online Mandarin course with two schools in Angus: the course offers language progression across six lessons, and introduces via podcasts and animations key cultural facts about China.

**If your aim is travelling abroad then there are many opportunities available through the Erasmus+ programme.**

## EUROPEAN OPPORTUNITIES

Each year, over 250 primary and secondary teachers from Scotland attend our LFEE Europe courses in France or Spain as part of their Continuous Professional Development.

Objectives vary, from language and methodology development, to visiting schools and shadow-training. All these teachers are successful applicants to the Erasmus+ Key Action 1 programme. Their schools receive a grant covering travel, living expenses, accommodation and the course fee.

Typically, teachers from the same school travel together to the same training, but not always. Some might go to Spain to enhance their language and pedagogy

skills, whilst others will attend a shadowing project in France.

Another mobility programme, this time under Erasmus+ Key Action 2, is School Partnerships. Typically, a school receives a grant of €16,500 to organise a three-day (minimum) visit for pupils and staff to travel once a year to their partner school within Europe – perfect if your secondary school wants to expand its international outlook or improve language learning through real-life experience.

Key Action 2 is also the place for innovation and exchange of good practices. This year, LFEE Europe teamed up with ALL and universities in Austria, France and Spain to develop resources linked to the teaching of languages in upper primary and early secondary through the use of 'soft CLIL'. If successful, our bid will allow us to produce innovative resources for practitioners. Watch this space for updates!

## USEFUL LINKS

- [www.scilt.org.uk](http://www.scilt.org.uk)
- [www.erasmusplus.org.uk](http://www.erasmusplus.org.uk)
- [www.lfee.net](http://www.lfee.net)
- [www.powerlanguage.net](http://www.powerlanguage.net)
- [www.ukgermanconnection.org](http://www.ukgermanconnection.org)

**"Pupils can ask questions about life abroad, local culture and language"**