**Showcasing Sister School Partnerships**

**Contact details**

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| --- | --- |
| **School details** | **Contact person** |
| School name: | Name: |
| Address: | Position: |
|  | Contact email: |
| Region/ Sector: | Contact phone: |

1. Please tick the appropriate box/es (see Attachment – Examples of sister school partnerships):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Language-based partnerships * Community link programs * Topic-specific partnerships * Whole-school partnerships * Structured programs * ICT-based links | * Social justice-based partnerships * Professional development programs * Cultural-based partnerships * Region-specific programs * Networked programs * Other |

1. Please briefly describe your sister school partnership, including details such as name of sister school and country. (200 words)
2. Please describe the impact of your school’s sister school partnership on: (200 words)
   * Student learning
   * Teacher capability
   * Curriculum, including language learning and intercultural understanding
   * Whole school improvement
   * Community engagement
3. Please describe how you plan to identify the key success factors that have led to your school having a sustained and meaningful sister school partnership (200 words)

**………………………………………………………………………..**

**Principals’ endorsement**

I declare that:

* To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this application is true and accurate.
* I understand that the information contained in this application may be disclosed to others, including other state, federal and/or local government agencies, organisations and individuals.
* I understand that the case study will be used as a part of an online sister school resource kit developed by DET in collaboration with the Catholic Education Commission Victoria and Association of Independent Schools Victoria.

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**Signed by the principal of the school *(add signature block as necessary)***

**Examples of practice**

The DET sister school research identified a range of different examples of sister school practice. Whilst schools setting up a sister school partnership will do so in order to address local needs and outcomes, these examples, identified below, may be useful to inform the possible activities developed under a sister school partnership.

* **Language-based partnerships**

The primary aim of the sister school partnership is to improve language learning among students.

* **Community link programs**

The sister school partnership is developed out of a community link program, for example an existing ‘sister city’ program.

* **Topic-specific partnerships**

The link between schools is planned around a particular area of work for students to engage in and collaborate on.

* **Whole-school partnerships**

This involves a partnership where staff and students get to know one another on a deeper level, work together and potentially undertake reciprocal visits. The impact of the partnership permeates the school, with influence on multiple student age groups and/or disciplines.

* **Structured programs**

Some sister school partnerships are based around a structured program – these partnerships are generally formalised and involve a portfolio of activities, e.g. The Australia-Asia BRIDGE program (Building Relationships through Intercultural Dialogue and Growing Engagement)

* **ICT-based links**

Some sister school partnerships are driven from an Information and Communications Technology (ICT) perspective. These partnerships are suitable for all ages, can be easily set up, managed and moderated. For example, the Australian AsiaConnexions video conferences; the British Council provides information on ‘ePal’ programs for developing emailing links between students.

* **Social justice-based partnerships**

The sister school partnership focuses on a deep and meaningful collaborative project that has an explicit shared purpose on a social responsibility project.

* **Professional development programs**

The focus of the sister school partnership is on sharing pedagogy, curriculum ideas and resources among teachers and other school staff.

* **Cultural-based partnerships**

The focus of the partnership is on the cultural awareness and intercultural understanding.

* **Region-specific programs**

Some sister school partnerships are region-specific, with schools specifically targeting partnerships with a particular area or country.

* **Networked programs**

Some sister school partnerships may involve a networked group of schools (and potentially other organisations) which come together for a particular aim, for example, shared collaborative projects, promotion of intercultural understanding, social justice etc.