

# **SCHOOLS NOW! CONFERENCE 2020**

**Developing global learners:**  
Preparing young people for  
life in school and beyond

**4 - 5 March 2020**



## Schools Now! Conference 2020

We extend a warm Egyptian welcome to the Schools Now! Conference 2020 to our Partner Schools Global Network (PSGN), the British Council's global community of schools delivering international qualifications provided by the UK awarding bodies.

Through the PSGN, the British Council creates opportunities for school leaders and teachers to develop skills to prepare learners for schools, universities and beyond. We actively support school leaders, teachers, students and parents in 2000+ partner schools around the world, as well as delivering international school exams (including IGCSEs and A Levels), we provide partner schools with access to services that include teacher and leadership training, educational resources, student competitions and networking opportunities.

### About the Schools Now! Conference 2020

The speed at which the world is changing knows no precedent. The British Council is a global leader in education, and as part of our dedication to creating opportunities worldwide for young people, we created the Schools Now! Conference to share and discuss research and innovative practice from around the world to enable school leaders to collaborate, exchange ideas and experiences.

This is our fifth Schools Now! Conference and builds on the successes of previous conferences in Abu Dhabi, Sri Lanka, Jordan and last year's online conference.

We chose Cairo as the host venue because The British Council has been active in Egyptian education, culture and society for 80 years and a proud influencer in the lives of many hundreds of thousands of students during that time.

In 2019, we delivered approximately two million school exams around the world for 300,000+ students as well as providing advice on their next steps as they apply for university. In addition, we are currently training 40,000 teachers on our online platform to help deliver learning in a way that is engaging, relatable and meaningful, to ultimately prepare students for life in a modern, ever-changing global landscape.

### Schools Now! Conference 2020 theme

#### Developing global learners: Preparing young people for life in school and beyond:

- Internationalising schools: the role of school leadership.
- Global challenges for young people: facilitating intercultural engagement.
- Collaborative learning: technology and global communities.

## Schools Now! Conference 2020

### **Internationalising schools: The role of school leadership**

Preparing young people for the world outside the classroom goes beyond the world of work and requires globally minded young people with a clear understanding of the wider world; young people who can collaborate, think critically and engage fully in the pressing debates of the age.

### **Global challenges for young people: Facilitating intercultural engagement**

How to broaden the horizons of students and encourage a global outlook through supporting the development of core skills relevant to today's global economy and tomorrow's opportunities. This will also build aspirations and confidence of learners to engage successfully in the wider world.

### **Collaborative learning: Technology and global communities**

Technology plays an important role in connecting people across cultures and borders and bringing the world to our doorstep. This can simply be finding out about a different country through a YouTube video to sharing experiences through discussion forums and partnering with a school by using the technology to work on collaborative projects.

## Schools Now! Conference 2020

Developing global learners: Preparing young people for life in school and beyond

Day 1 – Wednesday 4th March 2020

Time	Session	Room	Description
07.45		Aida Ballroom foyer	Registration and refreshments
09.00	Opening Ceremony	Aida Ballroom	Elizabeth White, Country Director, British Council, Egypt
09.10		Aida Ballroom	His Excellency Sir Geoffrey Adams, British Ambassador to Egypt
09.20		Aida Ballroom	His Excellency Dr Tarek Shawki, Minister of Education, Egypt
09.40		Aida Ballroom	Folkloric dance performance by: Talaea El Mostaqbal - Future British School
09.50	Keynote 1	Aida Ballroom	<p><b>How leadership can create a cohesive global community culture in an international school, fit to face the educational challenges of the 2020s and beyond</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Rob Ford, Director, Heritage International School, Chisinau, Moldova</p> <p>How can schools strategically approach the three themes of the conference. One of the greatest challenges for an international school is cohesion of the school community. If school leaders develop a vision and culture through international education, compelling learning, wider community involvement and effective communication, then the impact is felt on the quality of our education model. An international school prepares our students effectively for the challenges of a global society.</p>
10.35	Q&A	Aida Ballroom	<p><b>Facilitator:</b> Alison Willmott, Education Consultant and University Lecturer, St Mary's University, UK</p>
10.50	Refreshment break	Patio	All delegates must leave the main conference room during the break
11.30	Breakout workshop sessions 1	Aida Ballroom	<p>Cyber-safety session</p> <p><b>Safeguarding children online through effective policy and practice</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> David Wright, Director, UK Safer Internet Centre SWGfL</p>
		Salon Vert	<p>Workshop 1A</p> <p><b>Building Cohesion and Community in an international school. How leaders lead teams through building a shared culture of compelling teaching and learning</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Rob Ford, Director, Heritage International School, Chisinau, Moldova</p>



Time	Session	Room	Description
		Amenaris Salon	<p>Workshop 1B</p> <p><b>Preserving linguistic identities through the use of music and signs</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Sharon Tonner-Saunders, Lecturer of Education, University of Dundee, UK</p>
		Amonasro Salon	<p>Workshop 1C</p> <p><b>Fostering cross cultural collaboration within and across school networks</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Catalina Murgueitio-Manrique, Project Manager, British Council, Colombia</p>
		Verdi Salon	<p>Workshop 1D</p> <p><b>Leading on the international dimension in a curriculum</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Rolla Khaddage, Master Trainer, British Council, Lebanon</p>
12.30	Lunch	Patio	
13.45	Keynote 2	Aida ballroom	<p><b>Open doors, global minds - The role of the school leader in internationalizing our schools today, for the citizens of tomorrow</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Joanna Speak, Headteacher and British Council Ambassador, Poplars Farm Primary School, UK</p> <p>How developing school community and culture sets the scene for internationalism becoming an intrinsic aspect of school life. Joanna uses pedagogical examples, anchored in research to demonstrate how such approaches can lead pupils to become global-minded citizens. Focus will be given to embedding internationalism in the curriculum, the importance of international partnerships; their impact on pupil's learning and the professional development of staff.</p>
14.30	Q&A	Aida Ballroom	<b>Facilitator:</b> Alison Willmott
14.45	Comfort break	Aida Ballroom foyer	All delegates must leave the main conference room during the break
15.00	Breakout school-based presentations	Aida Ballroom	<p>Presentations 1A</p> <p><b>What international school leadership needs to be mindful of: a recipe for success</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Dalia Rostom, Head, IGCSE Department, Riada International School, Egypt</p>



Time	Session	Room	Description
		Aida Ballroom	<p><b>The Multi-diverse school in the 21st Century</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Dr Sally Saad, Head of Biology Department, Al-Reeyada International School, Saudi Arabia</p>
		Amenaris Salon	<p>Presentations 1B</p> <p><b>Developing a Teacher Learning Community (TLC) using a technology tool</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Amber Noor Mustafa, Senior Manager, Professional Development and School Improvement, Beaconhouse School System, Pakistan</p> <p><b>Globalisation</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Dr Emad Oddtallah, Director of Schools, Universal Civilizations Academy, Jordan</p>
		Amonasro Salon	<p>Presentations 1C</p> <p><b>Developing global learners: Preparing young people for life in school and beyond</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Simon Peter Kwadwo Attah-Cato, Executive Director, AngloGold Ashanti Schools, Ghana</p> <p><b>Promoting global perspectives through Model United Nations</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Nirmal Adhikari, Principal, Trinity International College, Nepal</p>
		Salon Vert	<p>Presentations 1D</p> <p><b>Enhancing a whole-school learning culture with the PSGN Online Support System: A case study of Olashore International School, Iloko Ijesha Nigeria</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Olayinka Thomas, Senior Master, Olashore International School, Nigeria</p> <p><b>Living and learning through international peace education</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Paul Brandon, Head, IGCSE and Advanced Level, Manchester International School, Egypt</p>



Time	Session	Room	Description
		Verdi Salon	<p>Presentations 1E</p> <p><b>Enhancing collaborative expertise in teaching and learning between British Council partnership schools' network in Colombia</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Catalina Murgueitio-Manrique, Project Manager, British Council, Colombia</p> <p><b>Influential Global Pioneers</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Heba Mahmoud, Culture Co-ordinator, Green Valley School, Egypt</p>
16.10	Refreshment break	Aida Ballroom foyer	All delegates must leave the main conference room during the break
16.30	Announcement	Aida Ballroom	<p><b>Announcement of Your World video making competition regional winners</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Douglas Wood, PSGN Manager, The British Council, Abu Dhabi</p>
16.50 -17.00	Round up	Aida Ballroom	<b>Facilitator:</b> Alison Willmott
19.00	Gala Dinner and entertainment	Almaz	<p>Hosted by Martin Lowder, Head of Client Relations - UK Awarding Bodies, British Council, UK</p> <p>Musical performance by The British School in Cairo Violin by Al Bashaer International School</p>



## Schools Now! Conference 2020

Developing global learners: Preparing young people for life in school and beyond

Day 2 – Thursday 5th March 2020

Time	Session	Room	Description
09.00	Opening remarks	Aida Ballroom	<p><b>Facilitator:</b> Alison Willmott</p> <p>Recap of Day 1 and look-forward to Day 2</p>
09.15	Keynote 3	Aida Ballroom	<p><b>Achieving Sustainable Development Goals and Global Citizenship Education Through STEAM Education</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Prof. Heba El-Deghaidy, Interim Dean, Graduate School of Education, The American University in Cairo, Egypt</p> <p>How we can utilise STEAM education (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) as a means to achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). How students can work together to solve authentic problems related to their localities and also extend to global communities. Having a sense of belonging to local and global communities helps establish a sense of ownership and global citizenship where everyone is accountable for their actions as change agents.</p>
10.00	Q&A	Aida Ballroom	<p><b>Facilitator:</b> Alison Willmott</p>
10.15	Panel Discussion 1	Aida Ballroom	<p><b>Young Voices: School Leaders respond</b></p> <p>School leaders respond to views from young people about preparing for the future.</p> <p><b>Panel speakers:</b>            Olayinka Thomas, Senior Master, Olashore International School, Nigeria</p> <p>Amber Noor Mustafa, Senior Manager, Professional Development and School Improvement, Beaconhouse School System, Pakistan</p> <p>Elizabeth Deakin, Secondary Principal, The Royal British International School, Egypt</p> <p>Richard Moore, Head of Secondary School, Malvern College Egypt, Egypt</p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Yvette Hutchinson, Senior Consultant, Education &amp; Society, British Council, UK</p>
10.45	Refreshment break	Aida Ballroom foyer	All delegates must leave the main conference room during the break
11.15	Breakout workshop sessions 2	Aida Ballroom	<p>Cyber-safety session</p> <p><b>Safeguarding children online through effective policy and practice</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> David Wright, Director, UK Safer Internet Centre SWGfL</p>





Time	Session	Room	Description
		Verdi Salon	<p>Workshop 2A</p> <p><b>Building Cohesion and Community in an international school. How leaders lead teams through building a shared culture of compelling teaching and learning</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Rob Ford, Director, Heritage International School, Chisinau, Moldova</p>
		Amenaris Salon	<p>Workshop 2B</p> <p><b>The Global Challenge: STEAM education for Sustainable Development</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Prof. Heba Ell-Deghaidy, Interim Dean, Graduate School of Education, The American University in Cairo, Egypt</p>
		Amonasro Salon	<p>Workshop 2C</p> <p><b>Designing an international dimension to your curriculum</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Alison Willmott, Education consultant and lecturer, St. Mary's University, UK</p>
		Salon Vert	<p>Workshop 2D</p> <p><b>Leading on the international dimension in a curriculum</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Rolla Khaddage, Master Trainer, British Council, Lebanon</p>
12.15	Lunch	Patio	
13.30	Keynote 4	Aida Ballroom	<p><b>Intercultural learning in an interconnected world</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Sharon Tonner-Saunders, Lecturer of Education, University of Dundee, UK</p> <p>In a world where young people are connected with people at a distance online whilst being disconnected with those in their immediate presence offline, the development of their intercultural awareness and identities can be shaped in ways that can have a positive or negative outcome. Sharon will provide an insight into how she has successfully embraced aspects of technology to connect pupils through intercultural projects. Her work evolves around culture, diversity, inclusion and identities, and she has a passion for finding innovative ways to communicate and preserve linguistic identities.</p>



Time	Session	Room	Description
14.15	Q&A	Aida Ballroom	<b>Facilitator:</b> Yvette Hutchinson
14.30	Panel discussion 2	Aida Ballroom	<p><b>Responding to what we have learned: Next steps and future actions</b></p> <p>Delegates share their views on the main points from the conference and consider how we can apply these ideas in our schools.</p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Alison Willmott</p>
15.00	Group photograph	Aida Ballroom	
15.10	Refreshment Break	Aida Ballroom foyer	
15.30	Announcement	Aida Ballroom	<p><b>Announcement of Your World video making competition global winner</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Douglas Wood, PSGN Manager, British Council, Abu Dhabi</p>
15.45	Performance	Aida Ballroom	<b>Closing performance:</b> Nefertari British International School Choir
16.00	Closing remarks	Aida Ballroom	Simon Higgins, Head of School Exams, British Council, UK



## Conference Speakers

### Keynote Speakers & Facilitator



**MEET**

**ROB FORD**

Rob is the Director of Heritage International School in Chisinau, Moldova.

Rob's keynote presentation will explore the role of leadership in internationalising schools. He will be talking about broadening the horizons of students and encouraging a global outlook through education leaders across the world, through his extensive international academic experience in advising governments and institutions.

**MEET**

**JOANNA SPEAK**

Joanna is British Council Ambassador and Head of a leading primary school in the UK

Joanna's keynote presentation will touch upon internationalising schools: the role of student leadership. She will focus on practical ways leaders can bring a diverse group of international teachers together in any international school based on the collegiate development of compelling teaching and learning by sharing good practice from the classroom.



**MEET**

**SHARON TONNER-SAUNDERS**

Sharon is a lecturer of Education from the University of Dundee, Scotland.

Sharon's keynote presentation will highlight intercultural learning in an interconnected world, and the preservation of linguistic identities through the use of music and signs. Since Sharon's work revolves around culture, diversity, inclusion and identities, she will shed light on the connection young people generate with people from all over the world.



**MEET****PROF. HEBA EL-DEGHAIDY**

Prof. Heba is from the American University, Cairo.

Prof. Heba's presentation will focus on Global Challenges for young people: Facilitating Intercultural Engagement. She will shed light on utilizing STEAM education as a means to achieving the 2030 sustainable development goals, SDGs.

**MEET****ALISON WILLMOTT**

from London, United Kingdom.

Alison is a writer and lecturer on the Postgraduate and Undergraduate courses at St. Mary's University, London.

Alison is the Schools Now! Conference facilitator and also a workshop presenter.

Alison's workshop will feature "Bringing Core and Transferrable Skills to Life" by examining the value of an international dimension to curriculums and exploring ways to develop core and transferable skills through practical activities from British Council Schools Online resources. As the conference facilitator, Alison will draw out the main themes of the conference, link ideas together and encourage delegate participation throughout the conference.





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