

School partnerships enrich the curriculum and motivate young people. It is not only young people who benefit: teachers have also discovered they can develop their professional practice through international exchange and training. (British Council)

Some ideas for sustaining your partnership

- ✚ Regular communication is important. (At least once a term) Everyone enjoys receiving correspondence.
- Start of new school year – Introductions and Best Wishes
- Christmas
- St. David's Day
- Easter
- End of school year – Thanks for correspondence; Have a great summer!

To promote good communication, it is important to acknowledge correspondence has arrived – even a brief “Thanks for photos”

- ✚ **Language problems?** You may be fortunate to have members of staff or parents who would welcome the opportunity to practise their French. An opportunity for CPD?

Correspond in your own language. Keep everything simple. Most French teachers understand simple English. French pupils start to learn English in primary school. Use pictures or drawings. E mail photos. Use technology. Staff could message using WhatsApp.

✚ **Ideas**

If you have themed work – Healthy Eating, The Environment, Our Community, send examples of pupils' classwork rather than think up new ideas.

French schools will be very interested to see photos of school uniform, any school meals, the inside and outside of the school building and trips to places of interest.

Send a copy of any prepared items - school rules, times of the school day, school mission statement or a newsletter. French schools do not have assemblies or extra-curricular activities, so information about a special assembly or an interesting school event can be used.

Breton schools will be interested to read the similarities between Welsh and Breton words. Pupils could send illustrated examples of simple Welsh and English vocabulary/phrases.

Welsh culture is always of interest. You could send a small gift of an appropriately named Welsh doll, Welsh soft toy dragon, or sheep to your partner school and ask to receive photos of your Welsh “ambassador” in different places.

- 😊 Most important – have fun, communicating and learning together!