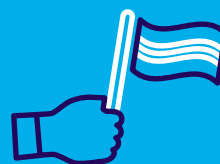
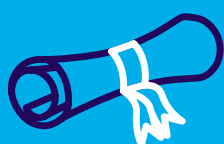


School education conference

14-15 December 2023

Handbook



It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to the School education conference, co-hosted by the British Council and the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE). This conference with the core theme of 'Furthering Innovation and Sustainable Education in Schools' is aimed at fostering collaboration, knowledge exchange, and holistic growth in the educational landscape.

The world is undergoing rapid development alongside unprecedented crises, influenced by human activities impacting society and the environment. Climate change stands as a stark example of this global challenge. Yet, within these challenges lie unique opportunities driven by cutting-edge technologies like AI and machine learning. The need for education systems to prepare future-ready citizens, capable of responsible, inclusive action towards equitable, just, healthy, and humane communities, has never been more pressing.



The National Curriculum Framework (NCF 2023) and the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020), two recent education policies in India, place a strong emphasis on an integrated approach that integrates core subjects, competencies, and skills into the curriculum. The emphasis on incorporating and mainstreaming subjects like global citizenship, organic living, holistic health, artificial intelligence, and design thinking into educational systems and practices reflects a paradigm shift.

Furthermore, the NCF 2023's increased attention to climate change (which is mentioned 54 times) emphasises how important climate education is. The 'Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy' of the UK Government outlines strategies to increase opportunities for climate resilience, biodiversity, and climate education. The British Council's Climate Connection initiative embodies this ambition by bringing people together globally to address the challenges posed by climate change through culture, education and the English language.

In partnership with CBSE, the British Council has been instrumental in developing programmes and resources supporting institutional and systemic development across schools in India. This collaboration has yielded a wide array of educational tools and resources, drawing upon expertise from the UK and India. Through our dedicated partnership with CBSE, we have extended comprehensive support to address teacher development requirements across all 28,000 CBSE schools. This collaborative effort has contributed to the development of the educational landscape, ensuring the growth and proficiency of educators within their institutions.

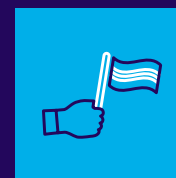
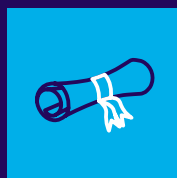
Our commitment to fostering educational development is further exemplified through numerous knowledge and skill-based professional development programmes and resources for educators and education professionals that we offer. Developed in collaboration with UK education specialists, these have been an integral part of our global initiatives such as Connecting Classrooms and the Climate Connection.

This School education conference endeavours to showcase and highlight these initiatives and resources with the aim of encouraging constructive conversations, facilitating mutual learning, and sharing knowledge, expertise, and skills among educators, school administrators, policy makers, and decision-makers. As you dive into the sessions, I am sure you will find them enriching and engaging. Do make the most out of the teaching and learning resources accessible online, designed to complement your experience and elevate your journey.

Thank you for being a part of the School education conference.

Best wishes.

Alison Barrett MBE
Director India, British Council





The facade of our Delhi Library and Cultural Centre is a mural designed by the UK artist Howard Hodgkin symbolic of our mission of building deeper trust and connections between India and the U.K.

About the British Council

The vision for the British Council's work in India is:

A shared future created by and for young people from India and the UK.

We believe that stronger connections and greater opportunities for young people will lead to deeper India-UK knowledge, understanding and trust.

Education is at the heart of what we do. We build long-term partnerships that enable high quality education for improved learner outcomes and greater socio-economic impact.

We work in two ways:

- directly with millions of individuals to help them gain the skills, confidence and connections to transform their lives, and
- with governments and partners to make a bigger difference, creating benefit for hundreds of millions of people across India.

Our work aims at

- Engaging with diverse schools in India's public and private sectors through projects, events, courses, workshops, and digital platforms.
- Facilitating policy-level engagement, focusing on headteachers' leadership skills development.
- Offering continuous professional development opportunities for teachers.
- Organising student competitions to foster growth and learning.
- Establishing school-to-school partnerships for mutual benefit.
- Showcasing the best of UK expertise and innovation in school education.
- Serving as a conduit for fostering collaborative relationships between Indian and UK school systems and professionals.



Our flagship programmes are

Premier League Primary Stars

Premier League Primary Stars was launched in 2019 in India. The programme uses the appeal of the Premier League, alongside the British Council's global network, and world-class expertise in English, to deliver a high-quality programme.

The programme provides teachers around the world with world-class coaching training, learning resources and physical education activities.

<https://www.britishcouncil.in/programmes/schools/premier-league-primary-stars>

Using the power of football and creative teaching methods, the programme enables children to achieve success in everything from maths and English to teamwork and sports.

Competency-based Education Project - CBSE

The CBSE is spearheading a Competency-based Education Project aimed at enhancing schools' capabilities to deliver top-notch competency-focused lessons, specifically in science, mathematics, and English reading. This initiative operates within the secondary level (classes 6 to 10) in collaboration with the Central Board of Secondary Education.

Aligned with the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020), considered India's most significant educational reform in three decades, this project seeks to revolutionize assessment methodologies. Departing from the traditional summative assessment system that primarily tests memorization, the NEP 2020 advocates for a shift towards a more frequent, formative evaluation that emphasizes competency-based learning. The focus lies on nurturing students' learning and practical skills, encouraging critical thinking, analysis, and conceptual clarity. Additionally, it aims to guide school boards in adapting assessment patterns to meet the demands of 21st-century skills.

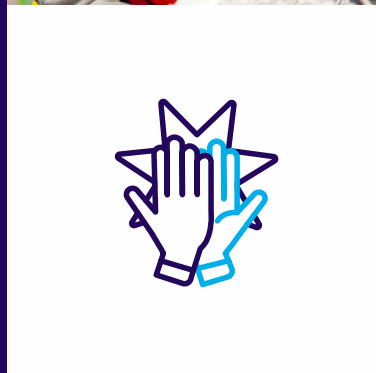
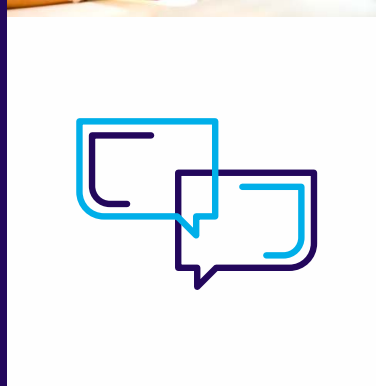
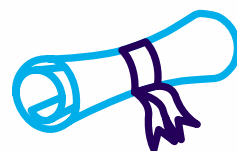
<https://www.britishcouncil.in/programmes/schools/competency-based-education-project>



About the Conference

The purpose of the conference is to

- Increase awareness and use of professional development tools and resources already accessible to educators, school administrators, and instructors.
- Share knowledge and information about the UK's and the British Council's education research initiatives, capacity building programmes and projects.
- Recognise and celebrate inspiring and successful initiatives by teachers and schools from across the country through competitions and workshops.





14 December 2023

Session 1: 09.30-10.30 | Inaugural Session

Abstract

Provide an overview of the policy level strategic vision and ambitions for school education priorities in India as it shifts focus from access to improving quality and fostering innovation.

Speakers

Rittika Chanda Parruck MBE, Director Education, British Council in conversation with

Sh. Sanjay Kumar, Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy

Alison Barrett MBE, Director India, British Council

Ms Nidhi Chhibber IAS, Chairperson CBSE

Session 2: 10.30 – 11.30 | Presentation of the scoping study report by Cambridge University Press and Assessments: Recommendations for strengthening pedagogy and Assessment of Practical teaching in classes 5-10

Abstract

Research conducted on behalf of the British Council and CBSE to gain insight into how practical teaching and learning are currently carried out in classrooms.

Speakers

Dominique Slade, Head of Education Content and Solutions, Cambridge Partnership for Education

Preeti Hingorani, Vice President Education Reform, Cambridge Partnership for Education

Launch of the 'Climate Education Programme, **Ashish Arora**, SVP-Products, Cambridge University Press and Assessments, India

Session 3: 12.00- 13.00 | Exploring sustainability and green pedagogy practices in classrooms

Abstract

Explore integration of environment and climate awareness, sensitisation, adaptation and mitigation initiatives/practices in school education.

Moderator: Helena Tinker, Global Head of Environment, British Council

Speakers

Gaurav Shorey, Sustainability professional & academician, SWARAJ

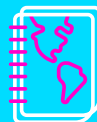
Ashish Arora, SVP – Products, Cambridge University Press and Assessments, India

Joyce Poan, Programme Specialist and Chief of Education, UNESCO New Delhi Cluster Office

Shweta Khare Naik, Executive Director, Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), India

Plenary session: 16.00 – 16.30 | Reflections and wrap up

By **Michael Houlgate**, Deputy Director, British Council and **Rajendra Tripathi**, Head, Higher Education Programmes, British Council



15 December 2023

Session 1: 09.30-10.00 | Inauguration and welcome

By **Rittika Chanda Parruck MBE**, Director Education, British Council

Session 2: 10.00 – 10.30 | Keynote Address

Ms Prachi Pandey, Joint Secretary (Institutions & Training) to deliver the keynote address on the topic 'Enhancing Continuing Teacher Professional development and capacity building initiatives in schools'

Abstract: Provide an overview of the policies and initiatives India has implemented to enhance its school education system.

Session 3: 10.30 – 11.30 | How can we harness the power of high-quality assessment process to drive better teaching and learning outcomes in school education

Abstract

A focus on the British Council and CBSE partnership on enhancing assessment practices in schools

Moderator: **Rittika Chanda Parruck MBE**, Director Education, British Council

Speaker

Dr Joseph Emmanuel, Director Academics CBSE

Duncan Wilson, CEO, BC Education India Pvt. Ltd

Ben Rocklife, Deputy Director of Assessments, AQA (Assessment and Qualifications Alliance) UK

Rebeca Cruz, Interim Head of Consultancy Projects, ECCTIS UK

Dominique Slade, Head of Education Content and Solutions, Cambridge Partnership for Education

Session 4: 12.00 – 13.00 | How can in-service teachers be supported in the current context to deliver the best outcome for students?

Abstract

Explore initiatives and innovations to address the diverse and complex nature of 21st century education in classrooms.

Moderator: **Gauri Puranik**, Head of English Programmes India, British Council

Speaker

Rishikesh B. S., Associate Professor at the School of Education, Azim Premji University and also leads the Hub for Education, Law & Policy

Dr Ashita Raveendran, Planning & Monitoring Division (PMD), NCERT

Su Adams, Computing Curriculum Specialist & CEO, U Can Too, UK and Micro:bit Educational Foundation consultant

Eleftheria Iakovidou, Senior Analyst, ECCTIS UK

Session 5: 15.30 – 16.00 | Reflections and formal closing of the Conference

By **Rittika Chanda Parruck MBE**, Director Education, British Council and **Rajendra Tripathi**, Head, Higher Education Programmes, British Council

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Alison Barrett MBE

Director India, British Council

Alison Barrett MBE leads the India operations of the British Council across our work in English, Education and Arts. She is committed to strengthening the educational and cultural exchange between India and the UK by building connections, understanding and trust.

Alison has worked for the British Council for over 25 years in a variety of roles in our Teaching, Examinations and Cultural Engagement units supporting the building of connections between the UK and our network overseas. Most of her career has been spent in the Asia-Pacific region, with posts based in India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, UAE and Thailand. Prior to joining the British Council, she worked as a teacher in Nepal, Japan and South Korea.

Alison is particularly interested in higher and basic education and English. She holds an MA in Teaching English as a Second Language from the Institute of Education, University of London and in 2014, Alison was awarded an MBE for services to the teaching and learning of English in India



Mr Sanjay Kumar

Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education

Topic: Prioritising innovation and quality education in schools to improve student outcomes.

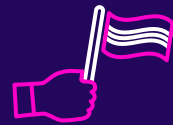
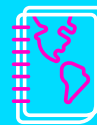
Sanjay Kumar plays a pivotal role of Secretary for the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education. In his previous capacity, Mr. Kumar held the position of Secretary in the Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, showcasing his multifaceted expertise. With an illustrious career, he has notably served as the Principal Secretary of Education in Bihar.

A distinguished member of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Mr. Kumar brings with him a wealth of experience, having joined the service in the 1990 batch. His diverse professional background and prior accomplishments underscore his commitment to advancing education and literacy, positioning him as a formidable leader in the realm of educational governance.



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Rittika Chanda Parruck MBE

Director Education India, British Council

Rittika is the Director Education for British Council in India. She has over 25 years of experience in the education sector in a variety of roles. She began her career as a research scholar working on drug clearance systems and then went on to teach biology to secondary school students for six years at a residential school. Besides teaching, her role in the school was to foster innovation and international collaboration which strengthened her belief that collaboration across borders is key to providing young people access to quality education from across the world. She joined the British Council 18 years ago and lead many flagship schools and higher education programmes like the International School Award and Connecting Classrooms amongst others. In her current role, she is responsible for the strategic direction of British Council's education portfolio in India – one of the largest education systems in the world. Some of her recent achievements include deepening education collaborations between UK and India through successful negotiations for the formalisation of the Mutual Recognition of Qualifications (MRQ) policy and, the conceptualisation and delivery of new higher education programmes in India such as the Going Global Partnerships.



Ms Nidhi Chhibber IAS

Chairperson CBSE

Mrs. Nidhi Chibber, is a 1994 batch Indian Administrative Service Officer of Chhattisgarh Cadre. Her illustrious academic record includes MA in History, LLB and PG Diploma in Intellectual Property Rights.

Her work experience is equally rich and varied, as she had worked as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Defence and as Additional Secretary of Heavy Industries, Govt. of India, prior to joining CBSE. Apart from this, she has occupied senior positions in the State Govt. of Chhattisgarh in various departments such as general administration, election, technical education, science and technology, revenue, school education, public instruction and others.



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Himanshu Gupta

IAS, Secretary, CBSE

Himanshu Gupta, the newly appointed Secretary of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), embodies a dedicated commitment to education and public service. As a 2012 batch IAS officer of the AGMUT cadre, his journey reflects a passion for transformative education.

With a schooling foundation at the esteemed Shivalik Doon School and Kundan Vidya Mandir Civil Lines, Himanshu pursued engineering at IIT Delhi, fostering a profound dedication to educational advancement. His career trajectory showcases a commitment to innovation and progress, highlighted by pivotal contributions.

During his tenure as SDM in Najafgarh, Delhi, Himanshu established the first Citizen Facilitation Center, emphasizing accessibility and efficiency. Notably, his leadership elevated Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya in Tissa and facilitated crucial mobile network connectivity in the NSCN insurgency-prone district as Deputy Commissioner in Longding District, Arunachal Pradesh. He got transitioned from the role of Director (Education) in the Department of Education, Government of NCT of Delhi to CBSE

Himanshu Gupta eagerly anticipates contributing to the educational landscape and fostering excellence at CBSE, inspired by a vision of inclusive, quality education for all.



Dominique Slade

Head of Education Content and Solutions, Cambridge Partnership for Education

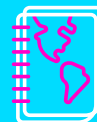
Dominique is an education professional with 30 years of experience in teaching, curriculum and assessment design and development, as well as the design and implementation of education transformation programmes. In her current role she leads a team of educational experts that support CPE in its mission to help governments to transform their education systems. The team works closely with ministries and ministries' agencies to co-design technical solutions that address ministries' needs in areas such as curriculum, assessment, pedagogy, teaching and learning resources and the professional development of teachers and school leaders; at home, the team works closely with departments of the wider university, to ensure that research informs solutions and to contribute to the dissemination of academic research and thought leadership in the area of education transformation.

Dominique holds a master's in French linguistics and art history from la Sorbonne, Paris, as well as a master's from Cambridge University, UK; she is a passionate believer in the transformative power of education and feels very privileged to lead a high-quality team of educational experts working in partnership with Ministries to effect sustainable educational change.



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Preeti Hingorani

Vice President Education Reform, Cambridge Partnership for Education

Preeti has worked as a trusted advisor and advocate of education for over 20 years. She has designed and implemented engagement programmes with ministries, governmental and non-government organisations and brought together various actors in the space to leverage the power of networks and communities to find local solutions drawing on international best practices. She has led the brand engagement for Cambridge in South Asia and in the process developed meaningful partnerships with ministries, not for profit organisations, donor agencies and educationists in South Asia.

With experience in EdTech and Publishing, across UK, Europe, Australia, India and Maldives. She now works at the intersection of strategy, impact, advocacy and partnerships to drive the agenda of equity and scale in education in India.



Helena Tinker

Global Head of Environment, British Council

Helena has 25 years' experience working in the environment/sustainability sector, developing and leading organisational climate strategies for business and local government. She moved to the education sector as Head of Sustainability for Manchester Met University, leading the university to be ranked the greenest University in the UK in the People and Planet University League. She joined the British Council in November 2022 to develop and lead our climate change work through both programmes and operations. She is a Chartered Environmentalist and environmental scientist.



Gaurav Shorey

Sustainability professional & academician, SWARAJ

Gaurav Shorey is an architect by qualification and a sustainability professional & academician by practice. He has 18 years of experience in the sustainability domain, during which he has transitioned from green rating development and implementation, through core consultancy, to school and university-level education and awareness on sustainability and climate action.

As a GRIHA trainer, ECBC master trainer, and a trainer for UN-HABITAT programs, he has trained over thirty thousand people including students, faculty members, government officials & private sector professionals in sustainable buildings, energy efficiency, national codes and standards, etc. He has authored several articles, chapters to books and peer-reviewed journal articles in his domains of expertise, as well as subjects such as linguistics, and cultural studies.



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Ashish Arora

Sr. Vice President, Cambridge University Press and Assessments, India

Ashish Arora is the Sr. Vice President at Cambridge University Press & Assessment, India, currently leading the Consumer function for the South Asia region. He has worked for Cambridge for more than a decade and has around 20 years of overall experience in the education and learning sector.

Ashish has managed diverse leadership roles and portfolios, including creating and managing Teaching & Learning Solutions; managing Business & Product Management strategies; and building and implementing Technology & Digital Strategies for content creation, management and access.

Ashish is passionate about the opportunities that Education unlocks and is also leading on the Climate Education initiatives for Cambridge University Press & Assessment in South Asia.



Joyce Poan

Programme Specialist and Chief of Education, UNESCO New Delhi Cluster Office

Joyce joined the UNESCO New Delhi Office in October 2021 as Programme Specialist and Chief of Education, and manages the implementation of UNESCO's educational priorities and activities in Bhutan, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka.

From 2009 to 2021, Joyce was based at UNESCO Headquarters and worked in the Education Sector's Executive Office, before transferring to the Division of Peace Education and Sustainable Development. With the Education Sector, Joyce focused on sectoral priorities and management of the UNESCO's Education Institutes and Centres. She has also worked on the Global Citizenship Education (GCED) programme and on thematic areas such as peace and human rights education, reconciliation, nationalism, education for international understanding, and prevention of violent extremism.



Shweta Khare Naik

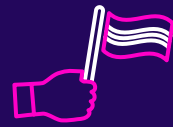
Executive Director, Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), India

A restive explorer by nature, Shweta has over 15 years of rich and diverse experience working with various government and nonprofit organizations in the environment education and biodiversity conservation space. She recently moved back to India, with a mandate to setup JGI-India, after spending 3 years working very closely with Dr. Jane Goodall and the team at JGI-Tanzania. She also serves as a Member IOC Ocean Literacy Group of Experts (GoE) on the UNESCO - Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.



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Ben Rockliffe

Deputy Director of Assessment - AlphaPlus

Ben joined AlphaPlus in May 2021 as Deputy Director of Assessment. In his role, he provides technical input into the design and development of assessment services for AlphaPlus customers. His current significant projects include onscreen adaptive assessments for the Welsh and Scottish Governments.

Ben has worked in several different roles across the education and awarding sector. He worked on the Senior Management Team of two national awarding bodies where he led on qualification and assessment development, expanding the business into new markets and regulatory compliance. He has also worked in education policy at the Department for Education and the Training and Development Agency for Schools, where he led projects on workforce development, data improvement and legislation. Ben graduated in translation and interpretation in French and Spanish at the University of Bradford.



Adrian Fenton

Senior Consultant Schools Programme, British Council UK

Adrian Fenton is a Senior Consultant in the Schools team at the British Council, having focused on public engagement and STEM Education, and is leading on the international Coding programme with the Micro:bit Educational Foundation. With over 20 years' experience in science education project management, he started as a Physics teacher in the UK, has worked in Tanzania with VSO, and has delivered teacher training activities in countries including the UK, Portugal, Slovenia and Bangladesh. His former role as Head of Education with the British Science Association had a strong focus on science as a part of culture, and whilst at the Association for Science Education he led on inclusive science approaches and was involved in curriculum development.



Su Adams

Computing Curriculum Specialist & CEO, U Can Too UK and and Micro:bit Educational Foundation consultant

Passionate about affecting change by highlighting the creative possibilities of technology, Su Adams founded U Can Too, an organisation aimed at, *'Helping to deliver the computing curriculum in exciting and creative ways'*. Through using controllers such as the micro:bit, Su combines her broad experience in the IT industry and Education, with creative experience to design and deliver training and workshops for various institutions including schools, libraries, charities, EdTech providers and larger entities like The British Council and Salesforce (for their annual presence at the World Economic Forum). As an experienced micro:bit educator, Su regularly works with and on behalf of The Micro:bit Educational Foundation providing consultancy, training and curriculum support.



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Rishikesh B. S.

Professor and Associate Director, School Education, Azim Premji University

Rishikesh is a Professor and Associate Director at the School of Education, Azim Premji University. He has 25 years of research & teaching experience, 18 years of which has been at Azim Premji Foundation. His research interests are in the domains of educational policies, learner assessments and teacher education.

He has worked closely with the Dr. K. Kasturirangan Committee which wrote the Draft National education Policy 2019. Subsequently he has been a member of the two sub-committees which provided the inputs for implementation of NEP 2020 in school and higher education to the Government of Karnataka. He is currently a member of the NEP Implementation Task Force in Karnataka and of the Technical Secretariat to the Steering Committee for drafting the National Curriculum Framework (NCF).

He writes regularly on educational policy related issues in national dailies and magazines to make laws and policies accessible to everyone.



Dr Poornima Ravi

Academic Consultant Policy and state reform - FLN, Teacher training and capacity building

Dr R. Poornima has a decade of experience in academic research and instructional design. She is a Cambridge CELTA certified teacher and has received her doctorate in the field of applied linguistics. She has presented her research at various national and international level portals. She was a Teaching Fellow in a government school at Chennai for Teach For India. She is also an instructional designer and trainer for FIRKI - Teacher Education Platform. Dr. R. Poornima has been associated with the British Council as a British Council School Ambassador (BCSA) since 2015. Her work involves mentoring, teacher training and instructional designing for the Connecting Classrooms initiatives. She has been a part of the International Dimension in Schools (IDS) program as an assessor and has supported schools from India and Nigeria. She was a Master resource person for SCERT, Andhra Pradesh and has been a part of the core team that designed the Comprehensive Learning Enhancement Program (CLEP) and the Spoken English for Teachers program that reached 1.5 lakh government teachers.

As an instructional designer at Ma Foi Etude she has curated Continuous Professional Development programs and Faculty Development Programs (FDP) and trainings too for schools and colleges.



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Katie Bagli

Director Education, Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), India

Katie Bagli is an avid nature lover, children's book author, columnist and scriptwriter. Her work has appeared in newspapers like The Hindu's Young World, Robin Age and NCERT films. As one of the founders of the Save Rani Bagh Foundation she campaigned to save more than 3000 trees in Mumbai's Byculla Zoo. Katie supports the conception of JGI's educational programmes and facilitates implementation across various spaces.



Lubaina Bandukwala

Director Communication and Partnerships, Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), India

Lubaina Bandukwala trained as a journalist but followed her heart into children's publishing as a writer, editor and curator of events centered around literature and education. She has published both fiction and non-fiction and founded the Peek A Book Literature Festival and Children's Literature in Mumbai. Lubaina supports the communication function at JGI and aligns with various partners to engage with and amplify JGI's programmes in India.



Michael Houlgate

Deputy Director India, British Council

Michael Houlgate joined the British Council in India as Deputy Director in October 2022. He leads the British Council's programmes in India, developing and delivering a diverse portfolio of projects in education, English and the arts across the country.

Michael joined the British Council in 2012, and has worked in China, Egypt, Afghanistan and most recently Pakistan. He worked to introduce the UK apprenticeship model in China for the first time; set up and managed the £20m Newton-Mosharafa fund to support UK-Egypt research partnerships, delivered the British Council's work on education and civil society in Afghanistan, and led the British Council's work across education, English and arts and culture in Pakistan.



Rajendra Tripathi

Head-Higher Education Programmes- India, British Council

Rajendra is a development professional working in the area of Corporate Responsibility (CSR) Sustainability Initiatives including Education, Skill Development, Sustainability, NGO capacity building. He is currently working as Head Higher Education for the British Council and is responsible for managing partnerships and programmes.



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Dr. Joseph Emmanuel

Director Academics, CBSE

Dr. Joseph Emmanuel is currently the Director (Academics) in Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE). He is also acting as National Project Manager for Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) conducted by Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. Prior to this, he has served CBSE in various capacities such as Secretary, Regional Director and Officer on Special Duty for Medical Entrance Examination.

Dr. Emmanuel has played a pivotal role in bringing reforms in CBSE. He has spearheaded integration of technology with the examination and Affiliation Systems. He has also played an active role in setting up of CBSE Centres of Excellence all over the country for Capacity Building of Principals, Teachers & Students. As an Officer on Special Duty (OSD), he has successfully introduced National Level Single Entrance Examination (National Eligibility cum Entrance Test-NEET) for MBBS and BDS admission for the first time in the country.

Under his guidance, CBSE has brought out about 70 Manuals and Handbooks for the support of Students, Teachers, Principals and Parents in the last 5 years.

He is currently involved in the implementation of NEP recommendations in CBSE schools and Heading the new Projects like, Structured Assessment for Analyzing Learning (SAFAL), School Quality Assessment and Assurance (SQAA), Holistic Progress Card (HPC) and Competency Based Education (CBE), etc.



Rebeca Cruz

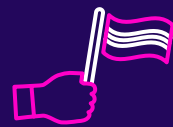
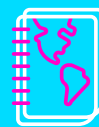
K-12 Education and Development Manager, ECCTIS

Rebeca is the K-12 Education and Development Manager at ECCTIS. She oversees the quality, operational management and delivery of the Project Division's portfolio of school-age and International Development research and consultancy projects, ensuring the delivery of high-quality research, evaluation and guidance in these areas. Rebeca has a background in research and analysis, teaching, project management and evaluation in the fields of International Development, education, gender and EDI. She has designed, managed and delivered a varied portfolio of research and consultancy projects, including qualification benchmarking and mapping exercises, demand studies, programme evaluations and comprehensive literature reviews.



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Duncan Wilson

CEO, BC Education India Pvt Ltd

Duncan has been working with the British Council since 1999 and has held a variety of different roles in English Teaching, Assessment and English projects. He has previously worked as a manager and teacher in Vietnam, Egypt, Dubai, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Singapore. As Director BC Education India, Duncan leads the British Council's work in exams and English contracts across the country enabling access to a wide range of assessment tools and qualifications, teaching resources and courses.



Gauri Puranik

Head-English Programmes- India, British Council

Gauri is the Head of English Programmes for India. She has 20 years of work experience across both, the private and public education sector in areas like operations, project governance, large scale project management, quality assurance and risk management. Gauri has a Masters in Business Administration and completed her CELTA (Certificate in English Language Training for Adults) from Cambridge English, in 2015

In her current role, Gauri leads on strategy, planning and implementation of British Council's work in English language teaching, learning and assessment with the government sector in India. She is passionate about working with government partners to co-create high impact and sustainable solutions. But what drives her every day is knowing that her work reaches and positively impacts marginalised youth and enables them to develop a global outlook.

Apart from work, Gauri focusses on being a 'cool' mom to her teenage daughter. In her spare time, she loves to trek and go on nature walks.



Eleftheria Iakovidou

Senior Analyst, ECCTIS

Eleftheria works as a Senior Analyst at ECCTIS conducting analysis, literature reviews, and stakeholder engagement activities on K-12 and development research and evaluation projects. She has substantial experience working on research and evaluation projects in secondary education settings, designing and working on impact and process evaluations using stakeholder engagement (e.g. surveys, interviews, focus groups). Eleftheria has a background in social and education research and analysis, project management and evaluation in the fields of teacher education, school education, curriculum, pedagogy, and assessment. She has a BSc in Education and Social Policy and an MSc in Education (Special and Inclusive). She is currently undertaking a PhD in Education, exploring how student's attributes, dispositions, critical and creative thinking can be assessed in the context of Education for Sustainable Development in secondary education in England.



