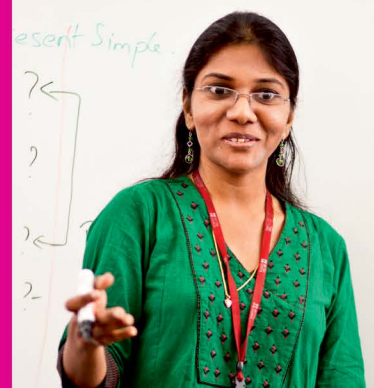


# School education conference

Furthering innovation and  
sustainable education in schools

14 – 15 December 2023  
British Council, New Delhi



# Overview

British Council and the CBSE (Central Board of Secondary Education) signed an MoU for collaboration on supporting enhancement of quality of teaching and assessment in schools. This joint conference will allow the two organisations to deliver on the MoU agenda of sharing knowledge and expertise between sector experts in both countries.

In India, at the policy level the recently announced National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) and the recently published National Curriculum Framework (NCF 2023) encourages an integrated curricular approach in schools that will bring together essential subjects, skills and capacities within the curriculum and pedagogy - 'Concerted curricular and pedagogical initiatives, including the introduction of contemporary subjects, such as Artificial Intelligence, Design Thinking, Holistic Health, Organic Living, Environmental Education, Global Citizenship Education (GCED), etc. at relevant stages will be undertaken to develop these various important skills in students at all levels.' Interestingly the new National Curriculum Framework mentions climate change 54 times whereas the NCF 2005 did not mention it at all. This demonstrates the increased importance of climate education. And CBSE is leading some of the implementation of the strategy through its innovation and initiatives like project Shunya.

The recently launched 'State Education Report for India 2023 – Seeds of Change' from UNESCO states, that 'the education sector in India is at a crucial juncture, requiring focused attention and concerted efforts to address issues of climate change and seize emerging opportunities.' British Council is one of the partners in the development of this report.

The Department of Education, UK Government's 'Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy's' vision is for the United Kingdom to become the world-leading education sector in sustainability and climate change by 2030. The strategies to achieve this ambition has been outlined as below:

- increasing opportunities for climate education and access to nature.

- driving opportunities to increase biodiversity and climate resilience.
- co-ordinating and leading a whole-setting approach to climate change and sustainability.

British Council's Climate Connection initiative is another ambitious programme that has been bringing people around the world together to meet the challenges of climate change. Through arts and culture, education and the English language, it is about ideas, innovation and real change.

Towards these goals and initiatives, the British Council and CBSE have been working together to jointly create programmes and resources that support institutional and systemic development across schools in India – specifically CBSE and State Government schools. This collaboration has helped create and build a wide range of educational tools and resources, including those that drew on the expertise of UK and Indian professionals and agencies.

We are now hosting the Schools Education Conference

## Furthering Innovation and Sustainable Education in Schools

in New Delhi from, 14 – 15 December 2023

This conference aims to highlight and showcase a selection of these initiatives through a variety of educational and capacity-building activities, such as masterclasses, workshops, competitions, and plenaries. The aim of this conference is to encourage positive conversations, learn from each other, share knowledge, expertise, and skills with educators, school administrators, policy and decision makers from governments in India and other South Asian nations.



## Objectives

- 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.



## Focus strands

- **Strand 1:** Understanding and putting policies into practise using contextually appropriate methods for teaching, learning and assessment.
- **Strand 2:** Curriculum, pedagogy, and assessment priorities for 21st Century schools and school boards.
- **Strand 3:** Enhancing computational thinking and digital technology in the classroom.
- **Strand 4:** Integrating environment education, sustainability and mindfulness across subject areas.



## Participants

- India: State government, central government apex body leaders and leaders of school systems including policy makers.
- UK: Education experts, agencies, organisations and consultants
- Other countries: Live streaming





Day 1: 14 December	
08.30 – 09.15 Venue: Theatre	Registration opens
09.15 – 09.30	Guests to be seated in the theatre
09.30 – 10.30 Venue: Theatre	<p><b>Inaugural Session</b></p> <p>Welcome by Alison Barrett MBE, Director India, British Council</p> <p>Lighting of the lamp</p> <p>Felicitation of the dignitaries on stage</p> <p><b>Keynote address</b> by Mr Sanjay Kumar, Secretary, Department of School Education &amp; Literacy on the topic ‘<i>Prioritising innovation and quality education in schools to improve student outcomes.</i>’</p> <p>CBE project Impact Study presentation – Trends from the ongoing study will be presented by Rebeca Cruz, Interim Head of Consultancy Projects, ECCTIS UK</p> <p><b>Rittika Chanda Parruck MBE, Director Education India, British Council in conversation with:</b></p> <p>Alison Barrett MBE, Director India, British Council to share information on the Schools Connect programme in India focussing on curriculum, pedagogy, assessments and environment.</p> <p>Ms Nidhi Chhibber IAS, Chairperson CBSE to share information about the approach and achievements in schools that foster innovation and sustainability</p> <p>Mr Himanshu Gupta, IAS, Secretary, CBSE</p>
10.30 – 11.30 Venue: Theatre	<p><b>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</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>Dominique Slade, Head of Education Content and Solutions, Cambridge Partnership for Education and Preeti Hingorani, Vice President Education Reform, Cambridge Partnership for Education</p> <p>Launch of the Climate Education Programme, Ashish Arora, SVP-Products, Cambridge University Press and Assessments, India</p>
11.30 – 12.00 Venue: Caara Cafe	Tea/Coffee break
12.00 – 13.00 Venue: Theatre	<p><b>Panel discussion 1: Exploring sustainability and green pedagogy practices in classrooms.</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Helena Tinker, Global Head of Environment, British Council</p> <p><b>Panellist:</b></p> <p>Gaurav Shorey, Sustainability professional &amp; academician, SWARAJ</p> <p>Ashish Arora, SVP – Products, Cambridge University Press and Assessments, India</p> <p>Joyce Poan, Programme Specialist and Chief of Education, UNESCO New Delhi Cluster Office</p> <p>Shweta Khare Naik, Executive Director, Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), India</p>



<p><b>13.00 – 14.00</b></p> <p><b>Venue: Caara Cafe</b></p>	<p>Lunch break</p>
<p><b>14.00 – 15.30</b></p> <p><b>Venue: Classrooms</b></p>	<p><b>Break-Out Sessions – Workshops</b></p> <p>Curriculum and pedagogy, assessments, quality assurance in schools.  <b>Facilitator:</b> Dominique Slade, Head of Education Content and Solutions, Cambridge Partnership for Education</p> <p>Improving life skills instruction in schools with a focus on the acquisition of core and transversal skills as well as computational thinking via coding.  <b>Facilitator:</b> Adrian Fenton, Senior Consultant, Schools, British Council) and Su Adams, Computing Curriculum Specialist &amp; CEO, U Can Too, UK and Micro:bit Educational Foundation consultant</p> <p>Enhancing leadership skills in schools, including inclusivity, change management, and leadership techniques.  <b>Facilitator:</b> Rishikesh B. S., Associate Professor at the School of Education, Azim Premji University and also leads the Hub for Education, Law &amp; Policy</p> <p>Sports and arts integration in schools.  <b>Facilitator:</b> Dr Poornima Ravi, Academic Consultant, Policy and state reform - FLN, Teacher training and capacity building</p> <p>Nurturing Interconnectedness, Compassion, Empathy through Ecosystem Awareness across the Greens and Blue of our Planet.  <b>Facilitator:</b> Shweta Khare Naik, Executive Director, Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), India</p>
<p><b>15.30 – 16.00</b></p> <p><b>Venue: Caara Cafe</b></p>	<p>Tea/Coffee break</p>
<p><b>16.00 – 16.30</b></p>	<p><b>Plenary – Reflections and wrap up.</b></p> <p><b>Facilitated</b> by Michael Houlgate, Deputy Director India, British Council and Rajendra Tripathi, Head - Higher Education Programmes India, British Council</p>



Day 2: 15 December	
09.00 – 09.30	Registration desk opens and opportunity for guests to visit the exhibition
09.30 – 10.00	<b>Day 2 Inauguration and welcome</b>
<b>Venue: Theatre</b>	Rittika Chanda Parruck MBE, Director Education, British Council
10.00 – 10.30	<b>Keynote Address</b>
<b>Venue: Theatre</b>	Prachi Pandey, Joint Secretary (Institutions & Training) to deliver the keynote address on the topic ' <i>Enhancing Continuing Teacher Professional development and capacity building initiatives in schools</i> '
10.30 – 11.30	<b>Panel Discussion 2: How can we harness the power of high-quality assessment process to drive better teaching and learning outcomes in school education.</b>
<b>Venue: Theatre</b>	<b>Moderator:</b> Rittika Chanda Parruck, Director Education, British Council <b>Panellist:</b> 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
11.30 – 12.00	Tea/Coffee break
<b>Venue: Caara Cafe</b>	
12.00 – 13.00	<b>Panel Discussion 3: How can in-service teachers be supported in the current context to deliver the best outcome for students?</b>
	<b>Moderator:</b> Gauri Puranik, Head- English Programmes India, British Council <b>Panellist:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rishikesh B. S., Associate Professor at the School of Education, Azim Premji University and also leads the Hub for Education, Law &amp; Policy</li> <li>• Dr. Ashita Raveendran, Planning &amp; Monitoring Division (PMD), NCERT</li> <li>• Su Adams, Computing Curriculum Specialist &amp; CEO, U Can Too, UK and Micro:bit Educational Foundation consultant</li> <li>• Eleftheria Iakovidou, Senior Analyst, ECCTIS UK</li> </ul>
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
<b>Venue: Caara cafe</b>	



<p><b>14.00 – 15.30</b></p> <p><b>Venue: Classrooms</b></p>	<p><b>Break-Out Sessions – Workshops</b></p> <p>Curriculum and pedagogy, assessments, quality assurance in schools. Facilitator: Dominique Slade, Head of Education Content and Solutions, Cambridge Partnership for Education</p> <p>Improving life skills instruction in schools with a focus on the acquisition of core and transversal skills as well as computational thinking via coding. <b>Facilitator:</b> Adrian Fenton, Senior Consultant, Schools, British Council) and Su Adams, Computing Curriculum Specialist &amp; CEO, U Can Too, UK and Micro:bit Educational Foundation consultant</p> <p>Enhancing leadership skills in schools, including inclusivity, change management, and leadership techniques. <b>Facilitator:</b> Rishikesh B. S., Associate Professor at the School of Education, Azim Premji University and also leads the Hub for Education, Law &amp; Policy</p> <p>Sports and arts integration in schools – <b>Facilitator:</b> Dr Poornima Ravi, Academic Consultant, Policy and state reform - FLN, Teacher training and capacity building</p> <p>Nurturing Interconnectedness, Compassion, Empathy through Ecosystem Awareness across the Greens and Blue of our Planet. <b>Facilitator:</b> Shweta Khare Naik, Executive Director, Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), India</p>
<p><b>15.30 – 16.00</b></p> <p><b>Venue: Theatre</b></p>	<p><b>Reflections and formal closing of the Conference</b></p> <p><b>Facilitated</b> by Rittika Chanda Parruck, Director Education India, British Council and Rajendra Tripathi, Head- Higher Education Programmes India, British Council</p>
	<p><b>End</b></p>

