

# Play and Creativity in Education: A Global Citizenship Education Lens



Global Citizenship  
in Primary Schools



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## Welcome to Global Village

Global Village is a new Global Citizenship Education (GCE) programme for primary schools in Ireland. It aims to support primary school pupils to become active global citizens committed to building a fairer and more sustainable world.

Through our engagement with teachers and school communities, Global Village is working to increase the reach, quality, accessibility, and effectiveness of GCE in the primary education sector. Global Village is currently in its pilot phase, a 20-month pilot programme running until July 2023. The pilot programme focuses on research, learning and establishing connections with key stakeholders in the GCE and Primary Education sectors.

Global Village is a strategic partnership between Irish Aid at the Department of Foreign Affairs, and a consortium of Dublin City University (DCU), the Irish National Teachers' Organisation (INTO), the Irish Primary Principals' Network (IPPN) and Trócaire.



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# Global Citizenship Education

# Session Outline



1. What is Global Citizenship Education (GCE)?
2. Why prioritise GCE, particularly in primary schools?
3. Curriculum links, methodologies, and resources for facilitating playful pedagogy and fostering creativity



1. How would you rate your **confidence to deliver Global Citizenship Education** in Primary School settings?
2. How would you rate your **understanding of the links** between Global Citizenship Education and the curriculum?

## Global Village Workshop Feedback and Email List Registration



# What is Global Citizenship Education (GCE)?

An **active and creative** educational process to increase awareness and **understanding of the world** in which we live.

Supporting learners, in **age-appropriate ways**, to **make connections** between their own lives and international **social justice** issues.

**Challenging perceptions and stereotypes** by encouraging empathy, hope, participation, reflection, and action.

Facilitating **critical thinking** from a variety of perspectives.

**Collaborating, cooperating** and becoming **empowered** to make a positive difference in the world.

Building on awareness, analysis, reflection and **action for justice and change**.

**Knowledge**

**Skills**

**Values and Attitudes**

**Action**



# Why prioritise GCE?

GCE nurtures *compassionate, globally aware* human beings equipped with the *skills* and *values* necessary to create a more just and sustainable world. It fosters:

- 1.Participatory Learning:** Using interactive methods to encourage active engagement and critical thinking.
- 2.Creative Exploration:** Encouraging innovative approaches to global challenges through imaginative problem-solving and artistic expression.
- 3.Play-based Learning:** Leveraging play as a tool to foster empathy, collaboration, and understanding of diverse perspectives.

# Policy Context

## International:

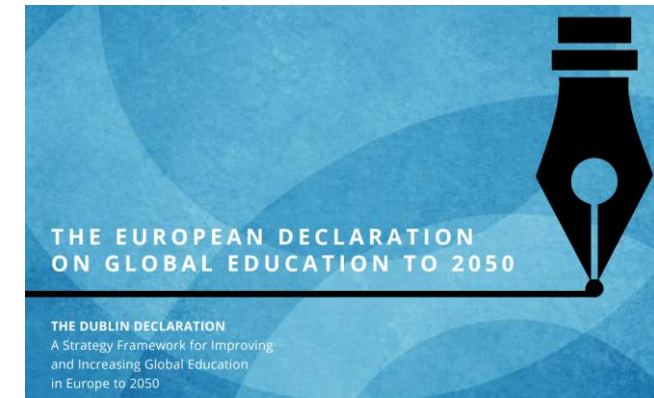
- Sustainable Development Goals
- Convention on the Rights of the Child

## European:

- European Declaration on Global Education to 2050

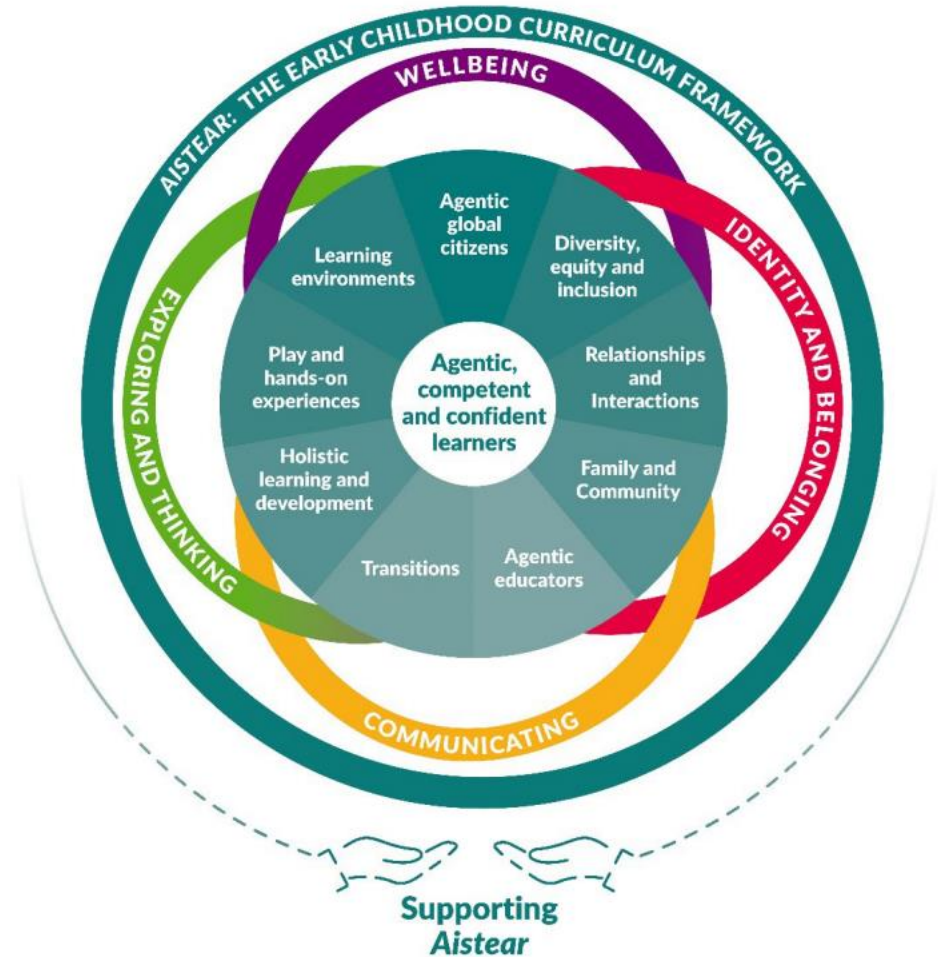
## National:

- Department of Education Second National Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development
- Irish Aid Global Citizenship Education Strategy



# Curriculum links - Aistear

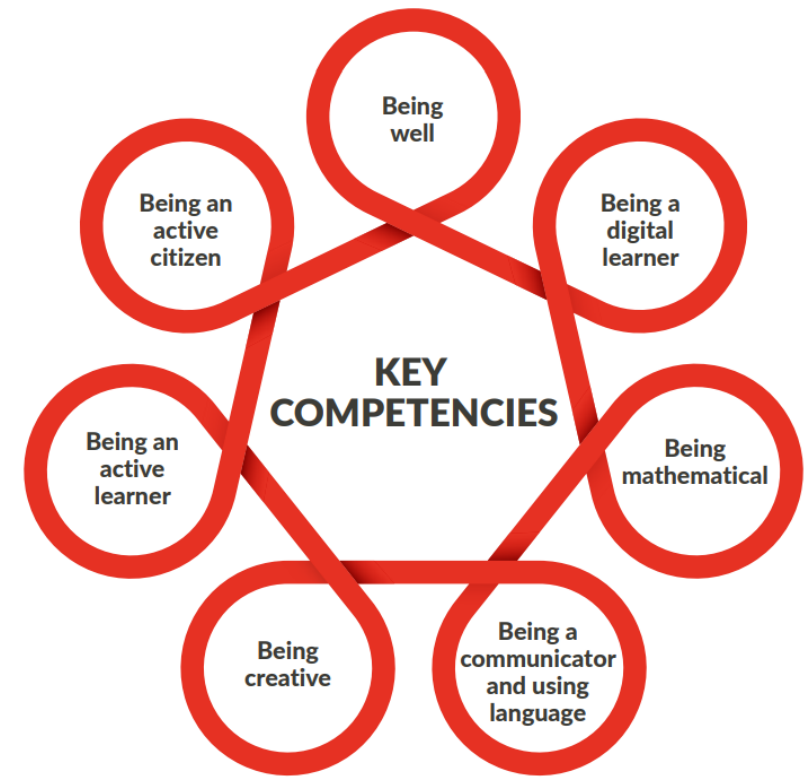
- **Aistear** supports GCE by emphasising the holistic development of the child, fostered through play and discovery, nurturing a child's sense of identity and belonging in the world.
- The **updated Aistear Framework (2023)** is grounded in nine principles including 'agentic global citizens' and 'diversity, equity and inclusion'.





# Primary School Curriculum

- **The Primary School Curriculum (1999, 2019)** provides a foundation for GCE by promoting social, environmental, and global awareness through cross-curricular learning experiences.
- The new **Primary Curriculum Framework (2023)** further integrates GCE by placing a strong emphasis on developing children's capacity to contribute positively to their communities and the world. GCE aligns with the key competency of 'Being an Active Citizen.'



# Let's play!



Global Citizenship  
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# 7 Activities – 7 GCE Themes

1. Simulation – Global Inequality
2. Web of Connections – Sustainable Development Goals
3. Image Theatre – Human Rights
4. Drawing – Gender Equality
5. Role Play – Climate Change
6. Board Game – Conflict and Peace
7. Film Review – Migration

# 1. Spaceship Earth Simulation

**GCE Theme:** Global Inequality

**Purpose:** To develop awareness and understanding of global inequality and to encourage action as global citizens.

**Source:** Children in Crossfire

**Curriculum links:**

- Language (Oral Language - Understanding)
- SPHE (Myself and the Wider World – Developing Citizenship)
- Drama (Exploring and Making Drama, Reflecting on Drama)

**SDG links:** Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities

## 2. Web of Connections

**GCE Theme:** Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

**Purpose:** To become more familiar with the SDGs and their interdependence.

**Sources:** United Nations, Trócaire

**Curriculum links:**

- Language (Oral Language – Communicating, Understanding, Exploring and Using)
- SPHE (Myself and the Wider World – Developing Citizenship)

**SDG links:** All 17 SDGs



### 3. Image Theatre

**GCE Theme:** Human Rights

**Purpose:** To become familiar with children's rights and to be able to relate them to lived experiences.

**Sources:** Augusto Boal;  
Ombudsman for Children,  
Amnesty International Ireland

**Curriculum links:**

- Language (Oral Language – Communicating; Reading - Understanding)
- SPHE (Myself – Self-Identity; Myself and the Wider World – Developing Citizenship)
- Drama (Co-operating and Communicating in Making Drama)

**SDG links:** Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

## 4. Drawing

**GCE Theme:** Gender Equality

**Purpose:** To reflect upon, explore and discuss key concepts related to gender equality.

**Source:** Global Village, Central Statistics Office, United Nations, World's Largest Lesson

**Curriculum links:**

- Visual Arts (Drawing – Making Drawings, Looking and Responding)
- Language (Oral Language – Communicating, Understanding; Reading - Understanding)
- SPHE (Myself and the Wider World – Developing Citizenship)

**SDG links:** Goal 5: Gender Equality

# 5. Role Play

**GCE Theme:** The Climate Crisis

**Purpose:** To develop discussion and debating skills and take part in a decision-making process regarding an environmental and climate justice issue.

**Sources:** Centre for Human Rights and Citizenship Education, DCU; Trócaire

**Curriculum links:**

- Drama (Exploring and Making Drama, Reflecting on Drama)
- Geography/Science (Environmental Awareness and Care)
- Language (Oral Language – Understanding, Communicating, Exploring and Using)
- SPHE (Myself and the Wider World – Developing Citizenship)

**SDG links:** Goal 13: Climate Action

## 6. Pathways to Peace Board Game

**GCE Theme:** Conflict and Peace

**Purpose:** To develop empathy and understanding towards those fleeing conflict and to understand the steps necessary to rebuild lives.

**Source:** Trócaire

**Curriculum links:**

- Geography (Human Environments – People and Other Lands, Trade and Development Issues)
- Language (Oral Language – Communicating, Understanding; Reading - Understanding)
- SPHE (Myself and the Wider World – Developing Citizenship)

**SDG links:** Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

# 7. Film Review

**GCE Theme:** Migration

**Purpose:** To develop oral presentation and filming skills, knowledge, critical thinking and empathy.

**Source:** Global Village, Trócaire

**Curriculum links:**

- Geography (Human Environments – People and Other Lands, Trade and Development Issues)
- Language (Oral Language – Communicating, Understanding, Exploring and Using)
- SPHE (Myself and the Wider World – Developing Citizenship)

**SDG links:** Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities



# Group work

- Join one of the activity stations
- You have 30 minutes to explore that activity

[30 Minute Timer / 30 Minute Countdown !\[\]\(666e09182d4cd268646ea700ea60dcdf\_img.jpg\) - YouTube](#)

# Reflection

## 1. Small Group Reflection:

- Stand in a circle
- Throw the ball from one person to another
- The person with the ball should give a one word/short phrase response to reflect what they thought of the activity

## 2. Full Group Reflection:

- Popcorn style!
- Please share – what did you think of the activity? Can you see yourself using it in your school? Would you make any adaptations?

# Resources and Evaluation

Please scan the QR code to:

- Receive these activities/resources by email
- Subscribe to the Global Village e-mailing list for information on more Global Citizenship Education resources and events
- Provide us with feedback on today's workshop

Global Village Workshop Feedback  
and Email List Registration



# Thank you!