

# BRIDGE SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

## 2023 Australia-Indonesia BRIDGE School Partnerships Program – Application for Australian Schools

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION, TERMS AND CONDITIONS

#### APPLICATIONS CLOSE 3 April 2023

Asia Education Foundation (AEF) is pleased to announce that applications are now open for the **2023 Australia-Indonesia BRIDGE School Partnerships Programs**. BRIDGE (*Building Relationships through Intercultural Dialogue and Growing Engagement*) is a school partnership program that:

- builds teachers' capability to develop deeper learning experiences for students
- supports teachers to explore new pedagogies and use technologies to open their classrooms to the world
- supports students to collaborate on projects, build their global competence and develop life- long friendships with their counterparts in the region
- supports people-to-people links between Australia and the region
- establishes sustainable school partnerships and an international community of learners.

In 2023, AEF will be establishing BRIDGE School Partnerships between Australian school communities and Indonesia.

Over the past 14-years, the AEF has established over 500 BRIDGE school partnerships across Australia and Asia (Brunei, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Kiribati, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, The Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, The Solomon Islands,

South Korea, Thailand, Tuvalu and Vietnam) and built the capability of over 1,000 schools and over 1,900 teachers. In 2023, through funding provided by the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), this program will establish 10 new school partnerships between Australian and Indonesian schools.

## ABOUT ASIA EDUCATION FOUNDATION

[Asia Education Foundation](#) (AEF) provides school leaders, teachers and students with the global perspectives and tools to amplify their intercultural skills and mindsets. AEF delivers informative resources, national and international professional learning, innovative programs and rich networks that connect Australian schools with 23 countries across Asia-Pacific.

Since 1992, AEF has been an initiative of Asialink at The University of Melbourne and partners with the Australian Government, state and territory education jurisdictions, education professional associations, business and philanthropic supporters.

***AEF equips educators and students with the intercultural learning and global perspectives to navigate a shared future with Asia.***

AEF focuses its work on three interlinked approaches:

1. Equip educators
2. Enable youth
3. Engage advocates

These three approaches are designed to be foundational elements of AEF offerings:

1. International Education Partnerships
2. Professional Learning and Youth Agency
3. Education Research and Development

AEF's current and evolving programs and platforms are responsive, flexible, and highly effective education initiatives informed by evidence, built on collaboration, and focused on capacity building of educators and students around Australia and across the region. **AEF continues to adhere to Australian Government policies and advice regarding COVID-19 and will ensure delivery of the BRIDGE Program is conducted in a safe and secure manner.**

## PLEASE READ THIS THOROUGHLY BEFORE COMPLETING YOUR APPLICATION.

Please note that schools in Indonesia will undergo a separate application process led by the Asia Education Foundation team in Jakarta.

### ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to take part in the BRIDGE School Partnerships Program, an Australian school must:

- agree to the conditions of participation and be interested in partnering with a school in Indonesia.
- support the nominated teachers to attend the Professional Learning Program online.
- be able to host their Indonesian partner teachers at their school and organise a homestay within the school community during their time in Australia for one week.
- commit to work collaboratively with their partner school for at least one year following the Australian teacher's visit to their partner school.
- have written support from the school principal.
- have suitable hardware, software, Internet access and IT support.
- have an interest in furthering the use of ICT in the school curriculum.

To be eligible, an Australian teacher must:

- have a bachelor's degree or equivalent teaching qualification and registration.
- be motivated to lead a BRIDGE School Partnership with a school in Indonesia and engage with their partner teacher's classes and school.
- be able to host their Indonesian partner teachers in their home in Australia (or find a suitable host) and school visit for one week - *Pending COVID-19*.
- commit to working with their partner teacher for at least one year following the reciprocal homestay and school visit and through online collaborative projects.
- have sound computer skills.
- have an interest in furthering the use of ICT in their classroom practice.
- be committed to teaching in their school for the next two years.

Australia-Indonesia BRIDGE Program requirements:

- Two nominated teachers required.
- Not learning area specific.
- Bahasa Indonesia skills appreciated but not required.

### REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Throughout the delivery of the BRIDGE School Partnerships Programs, participating teachers will be asked to provide feedback through a range of surveys as well as share examples of collaborative activities undertaken with their partner school on the AEF professional learning network. This feedback will contribute to the management of each partnership and support BRIDGE reporting requirements. Reporting is light touch however is an expectation of participants that they adhere to reporting requirements in a timely manner.

## FUNDING SUPPORT

Australian teachers will be supported to participate in the BRIDGE School Partnerships Programs. The support includes:

- Ongoing support in relation to professional learning, student engagement and partnership sustainability.

## ASSESSMENT

A selection panel managed by AEF will select 10 Australian schools to take part in the 2023 Australia-Indonesia BRIDGE School Partnerships Program. Applications will be ranked according to the quality of schools' responses to the selection criteria. Only applications that satisfy the eligibility criteria will be considered.

The selection criteria are:

### **Demonstrated capacity to support the establishment of a school partnership.**

- a) Why does your school want to establish a BRIDGE school partnership? Consider curriculum priorities and broader interests in engaging across Asia and Australia, specifically your country of preference.
- b) Outline how a BRIDGE school partnership will engage your broader school community.

### **Motivation of nominated teacher to lead the BRIDGE school partnership at your school.**

- a) Outline what drivers influence the teacher's decision to take on this role in the school.
- b) Outline how this opportunity will build the teacher's capacity and how they will share the learnings from the program across the wider school community.

### **Capacity to support a visiting teacher for a homestay and school visit program.**

- a) Outline how the school aims to host its BRIDGE partner, including homestay host/s and support within the school. Consider how you will address cultural differences such as religion, customs, and values.

### **Special Selection Criteria: Disability & Inclusive education**

Schools with a substantive focus on providing support for students with a disability and offering inclusive education programs, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and traditions as part of the curriculum or extracurricular activities are also invited to respond to the following:

- a) Outline your school's expertise in working with students with a disability, how a school partnership could support this and what your school can offer to its partner in terms of an exchange on inclusive education practices.
- b) Outline the nominated teacher's specific expertise, experience and/or qualifications in inclusive education for students with a disability.
- c) Outline school's expertise in offering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and traditions as part of the curriculum or extracurricular activities

## Possible areas of collaboration

Schools are also asked to identify possible areas of collaboration for their school partnership to assist AEF with matching teachers and schools. Some examples are provided below:

- Co-designing programs and activities that support vocational learning and pedagogical exchanges.
- Exploring issues of local and regional environmental importance.
- Collaborating in the area of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths (STEAM).
- Strengthening intercultural understanding through the exploration of religious and cultural diversity and values education. Understanding the role of culture and its impact on social justice.
- Highlighting female leadership within school communities
- Student leadership and collaboration.

## KEY DATES

The following timeline is indicative only and is subject to change. The impact of COVID-19 may result in additional amendments. BRIDGE will remain in contact with participants and continue to adhere to Australian Government policies and approaches regarding travel and group gatherings.

BRIDGE activity	Date
Applications close for Australian schools/teachers	3 April 2023
Matching of Australian and overseas schools	April – May 2023
Pre-program webinar briefings for participants	July 2023
Pre-program communication within partnerships	August 2023
Professional Learning Program (virtual): 2 x sessions per week	September – October 2023
Homestay and School visit in Australia (Indonesian teachers)	Second week of November 2023

## KEY INFORMATION SUMMARY

### BRIDGE Program 2023 – Summary

Country	Indonesia
# Partnerships	10 partnerships
# Schools	20 schools in total 10 Australian and 10 Indonesian
# Teachers	40 teachers in total Two teachers per school

## **PRIVACY STATEMENT**

All material received from schools by AEF is accepted on the understanding that such material may only be used:

- in assessing applications for the BRIDGE School Partnerships Programs
- in administering the BRIDGE School Partnerships Programs
- for the purposes of informing the program funders and the public about the outcomes of the BRIDGE School Partnerships Programs.

All information collected or created will be treated in accordance with the Privacy Act 1988, which prevents personal information from being disclosed without appropriate consent, unless disclosure is required or authorised by law.

Asia Education Foundation may publish the names and school of participants of the 2023 BRIDGE School Partnerships Programs for promotion and publicity of the programs.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

This program is funded by the Australian Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

## **DISCLAIMER**

The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government or the University of Melbourne.