

Project Title:

EYE Peers Learning (EYE-Peers Ethiopia-UK):

Early Years Experience (EYE) Peers Learning,
*together we advance educational quality through mentoring
and assisted cooperative support.*

Project Objectives:

EYE Peers Learning (EYE-Peers) will connect maths, science and cultural arts professionals in Ethiopia and the UK through a process of administrator assisted off and online mentoring to advance professional development (CPD) in teaching maths and science (in particular).

Our educational administrators (in both countries) will bridge the cultural divide, probing carefully, on a weekly basis (y1), Ethiopian educator CPD needs (through surveys, interviews, forums, consultations, skills audits, meetings, webinars, etc.). We will facilitate collective collaborative peer mentoring both locally and from the UK through various mediums (personalised by the administrators); connecting mentees' needs / experiences with support / insight. The project will foster greater creativity, experiential learning, discovery-based teaching techniques and more integrated (cross-curricular) learning for children in their early years.

EYE-Peers will nurture the capacity (firstly in teachers) to explore core and advance ideas of maths and the sciences more naturally through cultural arts, other daily / common life experiences and natural aesthetics. We will foster (through the teachers) community and student-centred instructional experiences, lesson plans and materials (low-costing) for more creative, wholistic, culturally empathetic and improved learning outcomes in the (40-50) designated primary schools of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The insights from the first 12 months of EYE-Peers will be used to develop a CACHE Endorsed Learning Course - "Unified Learning Pedagogies for the Early Years". This course will then be taught to teachers from the delegate schools and student educators. Our UK partners will serve as catalysts to help engage maths, science and arts educators nationally into this cooperative mentorship.. Our Trust c/o VillageCIC (our North Clapham, Lambeth, youth and adventure playground) will use strong ties to local schools to also engage their teaching staff in EYE-Peers.

Africa needs to develop stronger mathematical (consciousness / academic) achievement and according to recent OECD-PISA reports scientific and mathematical attainment in the UK and Europe are also poor relative to many other regions internationally. With the fact that mentor programmes hold intrinsic benefits for both mentors and mentees, EYE-Peers is well set to address important developmental interests in both countries, panEurope and panAfrica.

We have developed and are developing project partnerships / collaborations:

- Addis Ababa University (AAU)
- Ministry of Education, Ethiopia
- National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics (NCETM), tbc
- Village Consortium (incorporating as VillageCIC)
- University of the Arts London (UAL), tbc
- Schools Of Unified Learning (SOUL)

To further compliment these we are keen to engage organisations with strong relations to science educators.