

YOUR FIRST AMBASSADOR SCHOOLS MEETING (OR TWO)

ACTIVITY GUIDE

RESOURCES

This lesson plan and the resources you need to print are in the Activity Guide here: <https://epas.org.uk/epas-resources/>

- Lists of activities
- Event planning sheets
- Year Planner
- Pens
- PowerPoint presentation:
http://epas.org.uk/First_Junior_Ambassador_Meeting.pptx
- Video from Roberta Metsola:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CX7C8zM_IOc
- Simple explainer video about what the EU is and some of what it works on: <https://youtu.be/C1gs4LPyyLY?si=AVzNNWSL7ra4VkPt>

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Junior Ambassadors understand the importance of their role.
- Junior Ambassadors understand what types of projects and events could be part of Ambassador Schools accreditation.

SESSION OUTCOMES

- Individual Junior Ambassadors have an idea of specific projects they would like to take a lead on.
- As a team, you have an outline for some of the Ambassador Schools activities you would like to run this year.



| AMBASSADOR SCHOOLS

SESSION OUTLINE

Talk through the presentation (10 minutes)

What it means to be an Ambassador School – including a welcome video from the President of the European Parliament, Roberta Metsola.

Slide 1

'This is Roberta Metsola, she is the President of the European Parliament, so she is the head of a body that represent 450 million Europeans. She's going to explain why the European Parliament thinks the Ambassador Schools scheme is so important.'

Slide 2

'Our college/school is taking part in the Ambassador Schools scheme and we will be working to get accreditation, so a plaque for the school/college, and certificates for each of us. To do that we have a few criteria to meet, but putting on and participating in events and activities. The slide explains what it is we have to demonstrate.'

Slide 3

'Each of you are Junior Ambassadors, it's your role to come up with and run these events. I'll be there to support you, but we need you to show leadership and teamwork but helping to run these activities.'

Brainstorm ideas for events and projects (10 minutes)

Slide 5

- Split into pairs or small groups.
- Give each group either a list of democratic or cultural activities.
 - Show the list of National and international days on the slideshow for additional inspiration.
- Ask them to highlight the ones they might like to run and add any others they think would be good.
- Switch papers with another group (so if they had democratic activities, they now have cultural, and vice versa).

Slide 6

- Play the video of some of the things the European Parliament does.
- Ask Junior Ambassadors which of these are important to them.

Slide 7

- Pull out a few interesting days that they could mark, for example:

- International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
- National days linked to any students in the room
- Europe Day
- Which would link to an event they would like to run?
 - A debate?
 - A lesson?
 - A cultural event?
 - A campaign?

Decide on events (10 minutes)

- Get each person to say what event they would like to work on.
- Explain that it would be good to have teams of at least two to work on each event. Help Junior Ambassadors to form themselves into small teams.
- Each team says what event they want to work on and when in the year they think would be a good time to run it. Add these to your Year Planner.

Start planning events (20 minutes – or could be your second meeting)

Slide 8

- Ask Junior Ambassadors to sit in the project teams that they have formed.
- Explain some of the different roles they could take on each team – from the slide.
- Ask them to volunteer to take on different roles in their project teams.

Slide 9

- Give each group an event planning sheet.
- Ask them to try to think of all of the steps they would need to take to make their event a success.
 - Encourage them to break down each step as much as they can.
- Get them to write down each of these small steps and add in:
 - Any support/permission they might need.
 - A deadline by when they will get it done.
 - Which of their team is taking responsibility for each action.

- ▶ Collaborate with Drama students to tell European stories
- ▶ Quiz on Europe written by Junior Ambassadors in tutor/form time
- ▶ National dress day/evening: a fashion show
- ▶ Celebrating various National Days of different European nations
- ▶ European cinema sessions (with subtitles)]
- ▶ Debate on whether English should be the formal language of the EU
- ▶ Learn and play unusual sports from across Europe (you could use this as a house or form competition)
- ▶ Language-learning challenges
- ▶ Have a noticeboard to share information about a different European country – change country each fortnight
- ▶ European Day of Languages: say hello in 3 different languages
- ▶ Art: find out about what art there is in different European museums and where it comes from
- ▶ Secret Santa with traditional European gifts
- ▶ Music on the loudspeaker at lunch from different cultural traditions
- ▶ Have a European Food Week in the canteen: work with the staff to create menus from different European countries
- ▶ Eurovision Song Contest where each contestant performs in a different language
- ▶ Have a Euro treasure hunt around school: find people from as many different European heritages as possible
- ▶ Create a slideshow to be used in form time showing current affairs cartoons from different European countries (with translation)
- ▶ Have a 'European travel fair': students run stalls where they share the cultures of different countries to try to persuade people to visit

- ▶ Mock European Parliament
 - ▶ Lessons on fake news: how to spot misinformation
 - ▶ Collaborate with other schools: each school represents a European government in a mock debate
 - ▶ Creating a social media channel to share reliable news and current affairs – presented by students
 - ▶ Running an awareness-raising campaign in your college/school (e.g. for Black History Month, combatting the climate crisis)
 - ▶ Quizzes in form time on how to spot bias
 - ▶ Bringing in speakers from politics, the media and campaign groups and allowing students to question them
 - ▶ Informal discussion/debate club
 - ▶ Visit Europe House in Westminster to participate in debates and learn how the EU makes decisions and impacts the lives of people in the UK
- ▶ Debate with invited speakers
 - ▶ Students delivering workshops to other students on specific rights
 - ▶ Organise visits, virtual or in-person to the European Parliament
 - ▶ Attending events on how less represented groups can become more involved in policy-making, careers, activism, etc. (e.g. women in diplomacy)
 - ▶ Noticeboard sharing current affairs: updated every week
 - ▶ Sharing information on registering to vote
 - ▶ Debates on... reducing the voting age/
removing 'net-zero' targets/
who should be allowed to own a football club/what else??
 - ▶ Weekly meetings where students discuss and vote on an issue across the school
 - ▶ Arrange for a politician to hold a surgery (virtual or in-person) in your school/college



TASK	PERMISSION/HELP	DEADLINE?	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE?
TIP <i>The smaller the better. Try to keep breaking it down into smaller, manageable parts.</i>	<i>Who do you need to ask about this?</i>	<i>Think about the order you need to get things done.</i>	<i>This should be someone from your team, not anyone else.</i>
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