



Project Template

European Rotaract Information Center

Name of the project: Aberdeen x Shaw College Exchange

Organizing club: Rotaract Club of Aberdeen and Rotaract Club of Shaw College, the CUHK

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I. ANALYSIS, OPPORTUNITIES AND MAIN IDEA FOR THE PROJECT.

1. ANALYSIS OF THE PROBLEM WE WANT TO SOLVE

Children should have their right to play, constantly be curious and learn knowledge to develop better during their growth. However, not every single child have the opportunities to explore their surroundings with constraints from economic aspect or their family background. As a result, they only learn from the basic structure of teaching from schools and develop limited outlook as compared other school children with packed extracurricular activities outside schools.

2. OPPORTUNITIES

By bringing cultural sessions to both areas, children can have a chance exploring another part of the world and know more about Rotaract in terms of bonding with other people in the world. And by doing so, equal opportunity is being promoted since the participating children came from disadvantaged backgrounds, including being a young carer in the family or their family cannot afford extracurricular activities outside school nor overseas trips. The sessions gave the children an opportunity to be a children by enjoying activities, arousing their curiosity and learning respective cultures, this would also benefit them in terms of building a sense of global citizen and broadening their horizon.

II. HOW TO EXECUTE THE PROJECT

1. ACTION GROUP

1 rotaractor from each club responsible for contacting collaborating organisation/charity, 3 person-in-charge from each club to discuss and have joint meetings regularly to plan the rundowns, social secretaries from both club to make posters and promote the event, rotaractor from Shaw College Club to recruit and record volunteer numbers, 1 rotaractor from each club to make plans about logistics and shipping of materials

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

The Aberdeen x Shaw College Exchange is a project aiming to let disadvantaged children in both areas to broaden their horizon by experiencing a different culture without the need to travel around: Chinese New Year in Aberdeen and Robert Burns Day in Hong Kong. Throughout the project, we partnered with local charity or organisation, including Befriend A Child from Aberdeen and Jockey Club Jat Min Youth S.P.O.T. from Hong Kong, in order to successfully delivering the two sessions on 19th January, 2023 (Aberdeen) and 3rd February, 2023 (Hong Kong). Rotaractors from both areas joined alternative

sessions online to introduce own cultural background and collaborated with one another to bring out related activities.

3. GOALS OF THE PROJECT

We aim to deliver cultural sessions to both areas to broaden children's horizon about another part of the world; to promote equality by offering free session to disadvantaged children of both areas; to promote Rotaract as an international organisation and fellowship.

4. TARGET AUDIENCE

Disadvantaged children, who maybe but not limited to being a young carer in the family or coming from deprived family. Free session was provided to them to explore another culture without the need to travel abroad.

5. ACTION PLAN & TIME FRAME

12 weeks before: bonding of two clubs and expressing interest in collaborating in a project

8 weeks before: identify service target and goal, to build a team with person-in-charges from each club

7 weeks before: contacting possible collaborating organisation/charity in both areas

6-4 weeks before: have regular meeting to discuss the activities and rundown of the sessions, confirm the final dates with partnering organisation/charity

3 weeks before: ordering of materials and handling logistics (shipping from Hong Kong to Aberdeen)

2 weeks before: promoting the event via online social media platforms

1 week before: finalising the rundown and division of role, check amount of materials

during the event dates: carrying out the event and participating either online or in-person

Brief description of each step

It was quite hard to find suitable themes from each area which are celebrated close enough in order to minimise the time gap between the two sessions to be conducted. We were lucky to have members in both areas so that it was easier to contact collaborating local organisation/charity for delivering the event, and lowering the budget by comparing the price in both areas. It was also difficult to set the service time due to the different in time zone of both areas, therefore we have negotiated for a long time trying to search for a reasonable date and time that was suitable for everyone to attend.

6. RESOURCES

Activities materials included DIY Chinese New Year ornament packs, red paper for paper cutting and Fai Chun writing, brush pens for Fai Chun writing, Scottish costume colouring worksheet, IT equipments like laptop/computer and project (if have) to allow online Rotaractor participants

7. BUDGET

45 Euros including materials fee and shipping fee shared by both clubs

8. ORGANIZERS OF THE PROJECT

Rotaract Club of Aberdeen: contact@rotaractaberdeen.org.uk

Rotaract Club of Shaw College, the CUHK: racshaw24.sinceract@gmail.com

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9. PARTICIPANTS

The projected was collaborated with Rotaract Club of Shaw College, the CUHK from Rotary International District 3450. The session held in Aberdeen collaborated with Befriend a Child and invited local club members; the session held in Hong Kong collaborated with Jockey Club Jat Min Youth S.P.O.T. and also invited students from the Chinese University of Hong Kong to be volunteers.

10. SPONSORSHIP

N/A

11. MEDIA COVERAGE

Through social media of both Rotaract Clubs:

Rotaract Club of Aberdeen -

https://www.facebook.com/RotaractAberdeen/?locale=en_GB,

<https://www.instagram.com/rotaractaberdeen/>

Rotaract Club of Shaw College, the CUHK - <https://www.instagram.com/racshaw24/>,

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100076812669171>

III. RESULTS

1. RESULTS AND OVERVIEW

The sessions ran smoothly and there were a lot of happy faces from the children at the end. For the Aberdeen session, there was time management issues due to the difficulty of the detailed DIY craft making to some young children, so volunteers assisted them and let them decorate the craft once the ornament was made. It was great that there was assistance from volunteers and improvisation of the rundown to make the session run more smoothly and we managed to carry out Fai Chun writing as well at the end. For the Hong Kong session, there was difficulty in executing the Ceilidh dancing since many volunteers might not be experienced in getting along with children, therefore, it was a bit chaotic and instead conducted another activity (worksheet colouring) earlier. The extra time at the end allowed communication between volunteers, online Rotaract from Aberdeen and the participating children regarding the Scottish culture.

2. ADVICES

The crucial parts of the project include the age of the target group, since we were given a range of ages for Aberdeen session so it was a bit difficult to balance the right activity to be conducted throughout the session, so it will be better if a smaller age group can be confirmed. The time of the events are also a crucial part as it needs to fit into everyone's schedule with the time zone difference.

3. SUSTAINABILITY

The project is affordable and can be sustainable as long as there are continued communication between both clubs. However, board members of Shaw College Club are not static and change every year with a full new board committee, and so the bonding with both clubs discontinued unfortunately. Given the experience of collaborating and relatively straightforward planning involved, our club anticipates further collaboration opportunities with other Rotaract clubs to carry out similar events to promote cultural exchange among children.