

IDEAS Membership Information Pack for New Members

Dear friend,

Thank you for your interest in becoming a member of IDEAS – the International Development Education Association of Scotland. IDEAS is a network of organisations and individuals involved in Global Citizenship Education (GCE) across Scotland.

We believe that young people gain important skills, values and understanding through good GCE. And we believe that a well networked GCE sector can support teachers and policy makers to deliver the best possible GCE in our schools, growing globally minded, informed and active citizens and communities. Our role as a network is to enable relationships, share learning and advocate for best practice.

Current Context of IDEAS

This past year we have gone through a member-led consultation looking ahead to what IDEAS will look like over the next three years and what we will prioritise in light of reducing IDEAS staff and the management of large grants.

We thank our existing members for all their input and support in this truly consultative approach. The following general reflections came out of the report:

- IDEAS is highly valued by its members
- The strategy received approval, although there is rightly caution about how much can realistically be done by members
- All members wish to help; those unable to contribute are happy to become associate members
- It should be possible to rebalance the burden across the membership, but this will require active management and good communication during the transition

Our members agreed that the proposed strategy would be welcome but that we would need to manage the transition carefully.

Our funding context is challenging but IDEAS clearly still has a relevant contribution to make hence why we have a new approach.

Our New Approach

We are returning for the time being to a **member-driven format with minimal paid staff input**. Members will be invited to propose what they can offer each year. Some find time easier than money, some find money easier than time, some cannot offer more of either, but could offer meeting space, volunteers or other support.

Decision Making Processes

- A flat, organic structure will reflect the values and ethos of the sector and allow members to work together on what they decide are the priorities
- Small working groups of members will drive forward their common agendas and communicate members' priorities to key audiences

Our Strategic Priorities for 2021-2023

Aim 1: Networking and sharing learning to promote good quality GCE and co-ordinate our activities

Aim 2: Mutual advocacy for good GCE

Aim 3: Managing IDEAS as a good, small unstaffed organisation

Our Revised Membership Structure

A two-tier membership is now in place to support members' differing needs and capacity. Annual membership fees are £100 for large organisations (turnover over 100k), £40 for small organisations (turnover less than 100k), and £10 for individual membership. It is our feeling that money should not be a barrier, so please contact us if you feel this is a stumbling block.

1. **Full Membership** of IDEAS is for organisations with a core GCE purpose. This membership offers full access to the benefits of membership, with an expectation of investment in the network, either through £ contributions and/or in-kind support.

Benefits:

- Receive regular updates, including a bi-monthly members' newsletter, highlighting events, meetings and resources etc.
- Have the opportunity to network and collaborate with others through events, meetings and working groups, including on collective GCE advocacy
- Attend our annual AGM with full voting rights
- Be able to share your own news across IDEAS' communication channels

2. **Associate Membership** is available for the same fee as Full Membership, to organisations with a wider GCE purpose. Associate members are not asked to contribute additionally to the core working of IDEAS. They receive the regular newsletter and are invited to events and working groups. Associate members do not have voting rights and are not able to represent IDEAS or field candidates to the Executive Committee. This membership is not available to individual members.

To become a new member of IDEAS, please complete the following short online forms:

1. Membership Application Form either for [Organisations](#) or [Individuals](#)
2. [Member Audit](#)

The membership fee will be collected every February before the end of the financial year. At this time you will also have the opportunity to renew or revise your membership and re-define what you can contribute to IDEAS in the next membership year.