



## Companions in Action: Aims and our Way of Proceeding

The mission of the Society of Jesus today is the service of faith, of which the promotion of justice is an absolute requirement. General Congregation 32, Decree 4

In relaunching the Companions Programme as Companions in Action Jesuit Missions is bringing its extensive international resources to assist schools in establishing global links for exchange, for advocacy and for creating a more just world. This extensive network enables us to share ideas and resources for the promotion of justice through education. It fosters the empowerment of those with whom we work to promote positive social change on both the national and international levels.

### Companions in Action aims to...

1. Develop a mutually beneficial and sustainable **learning relationship** between schools in the United Kingdom and their partner schools in the developing world through personal content, direct experience and classroom activities
2. Strengthen schools' mutual **Catholic and Jesuit identity** by sharing values and good practice as expressed in the Jesuit Pupil Profile
3. Foster a clearer understanding for young people of their role as **global citizens** who have a thirst for justice, will speak up for the marginalised and lead action for change to create a more just world
4. Provide a context in which young people can learn about our shared responsibility to **care for our common home** and consequently adopt positive lifestyle changes which reflect Pope Francis' teaching in Laudato Si and support the Sustainable Development Goals

### Our way of proceeding...

- While maintaining links with Zimbabwe, partnerships will be expanded to include works in Asia and Latin America
- Partnerships will be three-year fixed-terms arrangements which may be renewed for a further period should this be deemed mutually beneficial to the partners
- Our materials are intended to help participants develop Ignatian practices, including regular use of the Examen, emphasis on the **Magis**, and use of the **Ignatian Paradigm** to help students and staff develop the habit of **discernment**
- The programme celebrates the unique contribution to be made by each participant to the welfare of society as a whole and to an exploration of world cultures as a means of creating a more just world
- Our partnerships will be rooted in annual activities, including shared liturgy, cultural and academic information exchange and being **men and women for others**
- The CP will help communities to foster an understanding of the **preferential option for the poor** and help young people grasp the importance of **going where the need is greatest**. Fundraising efforts will embrace these concepts
- Companions in Action may also include cultural exchange visits by partners where this is deemed suitable to help foster the objectives of the programme