

Call for Input: Examples of initiatives to foster peace-seeking spirit

Report Form

Date of report (02/06/2020) _____

Name of municipality: Manchester _____

Name of country: United Kingdom _____

Title of peace education initiative	Project G
The initiative was implemented by (Choose one ✓)	<input type="checkbox"/> School <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Municipality <input type="checkbox"/> NGO <input type="checkbox"/> Joint initiative by:
Theme/Aim	Nuclear disarmament
Participants (age, school grade, number, etc.)	6 Primary Schools
Location	Primary Schools in Manchester
Date(s) of initiative	Ongoing
Please answer the questions below clearly and concisely.	
<p>1. Please describe the initiative.</p> <p>In 2014, 14 of Hiroshima’s gingko seeds arrived safely in Manchester and were grown at the National Trust gardens in Dunham Massey. They were cultivated after being given to Manchester as a symbol of peace as part of the international Mayors For Peace programme in 2014. Manchester was the first UK city to be bestowed this honour. The seeds were harvested from one of atomic bomb survivor trees that withstood the devastating atomic bomb detonation over Hiroshima in 1945.</p> <p>In early 2015, the Council launched an art and poetry competition asking children to look at the Hiroshima A-bomb attack and the role of nature in recovering after devastation – over 120 entries were received from 6 participating Manchester primary schools.</p> <p>In late 2017, the six schools received their gingko trees and planted them in their school garden. Later that year, two visiting hibakushas came to see the gingko seeds and talk to schoolchildren about how their lives were impacted by the Nuclear Bombing. This was a humbling experience for all who listened to their stories.</p> <p>In Winter 2018, Manchester hosted 4 Hiroshima Peace Legacy Ambassadors – they talked to children about the experience of the hibakusha and also visited the school’s gingko trees.</p>	
<p>2. Please tell us about the response from participants.</p> <p>The children were very involved in the project and drew some brilliant pictures. They engaged with the stories of the hibakushas and received a very personal perspective on the events in Hiroshima which left a deeper impression that learning about it from a book.</p> <p>Here is a report on Project G from St Margaret’s Primary School: https://www.st-margaretmarys.manchester.sch.uk/news/project-g---a-plan-for-peace/29206</p>	
<p>3. Please tell us about positive outcomes that resulted from the initiative.</p> <p>The participating school children learned a lot through Project G – and it is ongoing because many future classes in those primary schools will be able to use the story of the gingko trees as a reason to talk about peace work and the effects of the A-Bomb.</p>	
<p>4. Please tell us about the challenges encountered in the initiative if any.</p>	

5. Please identify any materials used in the initiative.

Gingko seedlings, slideshows, talks with A-Bomb successors and hibakutchas

6. May the Mayors for Peace Secretariat post the material mentioned in Question 5 on its website?

Yes *Please attach the material(s). No Don't know.