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PRESS RELEASE

Enniskillen Royal Grammar School (ERGS) pupils to represent Northern Ireland at **2019 GLOBAL PEACE GAMES**

TEN schoolchildren from Enniskillen will represent Northern Ireland at the 2019 GPGs at the Peace Village, Mesen, Belgium, site of the First World War Christmas Truces, 15th to 20th September.

The event celebrates the United Nations' <u>INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE</u>. The GPGs will bring together young people across the world with the aim of creating peacemakers of the future. Schools from Belgium, England, Germany, India and Italy, will participate in the week-long peace education games at <u>The Peace Village</u>.

The National Children's Football Alliance (NCFA) has invited young people aged between 14 to 18 to take part in the event, which commemorates World War One and celebrates peace through play.

Through the <u>Peace Fields Project</u>, <u>ERGS</u> playing field - is twinned with <u>Flanders Peace Fields</u>, where in 1914 German and Allied soldiers stepped out of their trenches and momentarily escaped the horrors of war by playing football. The ERGS Peace Fields Project will be unveiled at the GPGs opening ceremony.

Pupils will visit significant battle sites and take part in international games and forums, debating the role of sport at home, in the community and at war. The event is funded by UEFA's Foundation for Children and the EU's Erasmus+ programme.

NCFA, CEO, Ernie Brennan said: "This is a once in a lifetime experience for young peacemakers of the future. Playing football games on the world's most poignant field will inspire them to pledge promoting peace in their communities."

For more information about the Global and Peace Games and The Peace Fields Project and how your school or club can twin their playing areas with Flanders Peace Field visit: http://www.childrensfootballalliance.com/football-and-peace/peace-field-project/

Notes for editors

For more information contact: paulcooper@thecfa.co.uk

To arrange interviews with NCFA National Projects Director, Paul Cooper, call + 00 44 (0)7875 283093.

The NCFA was established in 2008 to enhance children's development through the medium of football by way of the sharing and dissemination of information and the practical application of the knowledge acquired. The NCFA's aim is to protect childhood through play

The NCFA's core objective is to promote and spread best practice through practical application and football for fun workshops. Current NCFA projects include: <u>National Children's Football Week</u>; <u>The Peace</u> <u>Fields Project</u> and the <u>Family Skills Project</u>

For further background information on the Peace Fields project, visit: www.childrensfootballalliance.com/FOOTBALL PEACE working group.html



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