



GLOBAL PEACE GAMES

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PRESS RELEASE

2023 GLOBAL PEACE GAMES

Magherafelt High School, County Londonderry, will represent Northern Ireland at the 2023 GPGs, Peace Village, Mesen, Belgium, site of the First World War Christmas Truces, 18th to 21st September 2023.

The event celebrates the United Nations' [INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE](#). The GPGs will bring together young people across the world with the aim of creating peacemakers of the future. Schools from Belgium and Northern Ireland, will participate in the four-day peace education games at [The Peace Village](#).

The Children's Football Alliance (CFA) 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 Football Makes Our Shared History (FMOSH) Project, which was funded by the Lottery Heritage Fund, Magherafelt High School's playing fields - were twinned with [Flanders Peace Fields](#), where in 1914 German and Allied soldiers in the First World War stepped out of their trenches and momentarily escaped the horrors of war by playing football.

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 the CFA.

Ernie Brennan, CEO, CFA, said: "Due to MHS's outstanding FMOSH project they were selected to represent NI at this year's GPGs. It is a once in a lifetime experience for young peacemakers of the future. Playing football games on the world's most poignant playing field will inspire them to pledge promoting peace in all communities."

For more information about the Global and Peace Games and International Peace Field Projects 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: erniebrennan@thecfa.co.uk

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

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

The CFA's core objective is to promote and spread best practice through practical application and football for fun workshops. Current CFA projects include: [Global Peace Games](#), [Children's Football Week](#), [The International Peace Fields Project](#) and [Football Makes Our Shared History](#).

For further background information on CFA projects, visit:

www.childrensfootballalliance.com/FOOTBALL_PEACE_working_group.html

