

SATSUMA STUDENTS DISPATCH PROJECT: Simultaneously promoting “Global Human Resources Training for Young People”, “Cultivation of a Love of Hometown”, and “International Exchange with the UK” using the great achievements of our predecessors as a springboard

Kagoshima Prefecture



Visit to University College London



At the Science and Industry Museum in Manchester

Background/Aims

- Project launched to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Meiji Restoration in 2018.
- Using the achievements of our predecessors, the “Satsuma Students” who travelled to the UK during that period in history to study and who established the foundation for modern Japan, the project was developed to simultaneously promote “Global Human Resources Training for Young People”, “Cultivation of a Love of Hometown”, and “International Exchange with the UK”.

Project Outline

- Over a ten-day period, high school students trace the footsteps of the “Satsuma Students” in the UK and undertake exchanges with local young people, thereby vicariously experiencing the efforts and achievements of their predecessors.

Features

- Simultaneously cultivates young people’s international sensibilities and love of their hometown while unraveling the history of their home prefecture.
- Further deepens friendship between Kagoshima and the UK through rewarding partnerships with British counterparts.

Results

- Participants’ comments at the debriefing meeting indicate that the participation in the project had the effect of enhancing their international sensibilities and deepening their affection for their home prefecture.
- This approach of basing activities on “Kagoshima’s history” is effective for deepening the exchange between Kagoshima and the UK as well as providing momentum for further expanding relationships.