We have recently been reaccredited with the International School Award and are very proud of our International School status. Whilst the respect for cultural diversity has always been central to this nursery's work and is a huge part of the schools ethos, a more focused approach has given a deeper global dimension to the whole curriculum throughout the school. The international learning activities have really enriched the quality of the school's provision. They have enhanced the curricular provision and improved the quality of teaching and learning. The international activities have given the children the chance to experience many different cultures, to value and respect each other's differences and to feel proud of their heritage. The children have gained greater knowledge and have been given a real insight into life in other countries and they have really enjoyed learning about all of the different traditions and cultures.

## International link School – Atkinson Ashfield Nursery School

We have a very successful international link with a small school in a village called Busambala in Africa. While working in partnership with Atkinson House School in Northumberland, we support and liaise very closely with staff, pupils and the community in the African village school. Our international coordinator has visited the school in Africa a number of times and has developed an excellent relationship with the whole school community. Staff and pupils from Atkinson House accompanied staff from our school on a visit this year in February to Gambia - to meet and help distribute a second container full of resources for the school and local community.

The strong link with the school in Gambia has enabled our children to look at the differences in the life of the children there and their own life here – encouraging empathy and trying to find ways we can support and help them. We share curriculum content and the children and staff exchange emails, letters photographs etc. The Gambian school now has a small computer suite where the children can connect to the internet and can use web cams and social media to keep in touch.

We recently worked closely with Atkinson House School and managed to raise enough money to pay for the head teacher from Gambia – Mr Ebrima Jadama to visit our two schools in England. This was a hugely successful visit for all involved.





The visit to our school by the Gambian head teacher





The children in school



The school staff



The container arriving

International School Award