



THE AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC CONNECT PROGRAM CONNECTING AUSTRALIAN AND JAPANESE SCHOOLS TO CELEBRATE THE SHARED OLYMPIC VALUES AHEAD OF THE TOKYO GAMES.

The program, **ともだち 2021 (Tomodachi 2021)**, translates as Friends 2021, signifying the foundation of the program being built on friendship and relationship building between countries.

The Olympic movement unites countries and their peoples.

The program is structured to promote the international connection between two countries, fostering a safe cultural learning environment and providing a unique insight into each country's customs, lifestyle and activities in the lead up to and during the Olympic Games.

OBJECTIVES

- Connect students internationally to celebrate and promote the Olympic Spirit and the principles of Olympism: respect, excellence and friendship.
- Provide an opportunity for Japanese and Australian students to learn about each other's culture and traditions.
- Support the development of strong international relations with the Olympic Games host country.
- Provide the opportunity for teachers to tailor intercultural learning outcomes for their classes and share and celebrate the Olympic movement.

ENDORSEMENT

The program has the approval of the International Olympic Committee, the Japanese Olympic Committee and the Tokyo Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and the support of the Australian Embassy in Japan. Nominal support has been received from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in Japan, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Japan, the Japanese Embassy in Australia and the Consulate General of Japan offices around the States of Australia.

FORMAT

Australian/Japanese Schools and their respective language educators will be invited to participate and register via a simple online form. One (1) registration form to be completed per class. Maximum of four (4) class registrations per school.

Classes will be matched according to their age or year level and the program is available for students aged between 10-16 years.

Educator's will be introduced, and contact details shared. They are provided with a communication guide, with suggested themes and focal points to assist in meaningful collaboration. Educators are encouraged to have regular communication from the time they are matched until the conclusion of the program.

IMPORTANT DATES

22 February	Registrations open
19 April	Registrations close
1-19 April	Classes connected and educators introduced
19 April-23 July	Program active

