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25 November 2020

Press Release

German Teacher Award 2020

The German Teacher Award recognises the best and most dedicated champions of German in primary and secondary schools across the UK. For the last 16 years, the German Teacher Award, conceived and organised by the German Embassy in London, has showcased excellent teaching of German in UK schools and rewarded first-class and inspiring examples of language teaching inside and outside the classroom.

This year's German Teacher Awards go to **Claire Hackney** (*Haberdashers' Aske's Hatcham Temple Grove Free School, London*), **Emma Whittle** (*Dr Challoner's Grammar School, Amersham, Buckinghamshire*), **Suzanne Ritchie** (*North Berwick High School, North Berwick, Scotland*) and **Susan Coontz** (*Wellington School, Ayr, Scotland*).

A "Special Mention" was awarded to **Helen Williams** (*The Leys, Cambridge*), **Elizabeth Gallagher**, **Claire Williams** (*St Bede's Catholic High School, Ormskirk, Lancashire*) and **Kerry Lees** (*Easthampstead Park Community School, Bracknell, Berkshire*).

This year's round of the Award took place under exceptional circumstances due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Nonetheless, it met with an enthusiastic response from many schools.

The Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Kingdom, Andreas Michaelis, was delighted to congratulate the winners and all the nominees: "The remarkable dedication, vision and determination demonstrated by the winners and nominees, not to mention all the other unsung heroes nationwide, in their German lessons every day – and especially this year – are the driving force and inspiration behind German language learning in this country. By teaching German to young people in schools across the UK you are laying the foundations for a close and strong future relationship between Germany and Britain. For this I am immensely grateful."



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The Award has over the years evolved into a prestigious accolade within the UK teaching profession with the help of a number of long-standing partners: the Association for Language Learning (ALL), the Austrian Cultural Forum, the Departments for Education in England and Wales, the Embassy of Switzerland in the United Kingdom, Education Scotland, the German School London, the Goethe-Institut London and UK-German Connection.

Two of the prizes were specially donated by the Austrian Cultural Forum London and the Embassy of Switzerland in the United Kingdom.