

2025 Summary of Information for Rotary Clubs interested in Sponsoring an Interact Club

It is important to explain to the prospective Interact members they will have the opportunity to connect with leaders not only in their local community but also around the world.

They can take action to make a difference in their school and community

They will discover new cultures and be able to promote international understanding within their school and local community

They will develop leadership skills and plans and develop these by working within their school and local community

And above all they will have **fun**

Meeting with the School:

If possible, meet with the Principal plus the teacher or teachers who will be responsible for mentoring the Club. This initial meeting is a major milestone in explaining the benefits of an Interact Club. If there are questions raised as to whether the Interact Club will detract from the SRC (Student Representative Council) then present these qualifications

- ❖ Interact works with the local and International Community and is all inclusive
- ❖ The SRC works with the school community and is selectively elected
- ❖ They can work together on projects. Some students may choose to belong to both.

- ❖ When recruiting members ensure to invite students from all years. You will need to gain approval from school authorities and assign an adviser/mentor from your Club to the Interact club. Usually, the Young Generations Director or a keen representative. There may be more than one teacher at the school as mentor – two works well
- ❖ Ask the assisting teacher the most effective way to recruit students and get the message out to the school community
- ❖ The Branding Centre and the Interact information has posters and promotional materials in line with RI Branding guidelines. Lots of resources are available.
- ❖ Set up a meeting to connect potential members, answer their questions, and confirm their commitment to developing an Interact Club. Explain that anyone can attend meetings – they do not have to be a member. The Club I ran allowed guests at all times and after attending three or four meetings they were invited to join and then inducted at the next meeting

- ❖ You will be ready to start an Interact club after you have recruited about 15-20 members and electing officers. Try to have an assistant Secretary, and also a

publicity and communications director. Concentrate on Year 11 students as exec for the first year but other years such as year 9 or 10 can take on Assistant roles

- ❖ Order the Interact badges from RDU and also print their ID cards from the RI website
- ❖ The RI Branding Centre and the Interact information has posters and promotional materials in line with RI Branding guidelines.
- ❖ Support the mentoring teacher, club members and projects. Encourage the Board/ Exec Members to be in control and to set an agenda for each meeting and forward it to the mentoring teacher/s and Rotarian.
- ❖ Connect with Interact's global community – Create a Face Book Page and Instagram within the Club and school, as well as promoting the Rotary International Interact FB and Instagram posts.
- ❖ Candidates for RYPEN, NYSF and MUNA can be encouraged from the Interact Club, and present to the Club on their experiences. Also invite Alumni to join

Apply for the Charter and complete the forms, no fee is required. You can download from these RI websites. I will always be around for advice and support.

It is a requirement to update the information on My Rotary each year. Strive for a vibrant club that is active and inclusive.

The students will never cease to amaze you with their abilities and talents.

The Interact Club MUST have a plan.

A local project and an International project is all that is expected per year. Some service within the school and the local community can be researched by the students. They are excellent at brainstorming ideas: Some service activities some Clubs have been involved with before Covid and hopefully soon again are: Legacy Badge selling, a local aged care visit or the Children's ward at the local hospital with Easter eggs, collecting items for Christmas hampers for Salvation Army or the Homeless or a Homework assistance scheme after school for refugee children. Using the Rotary Health website some schools have made mental health posters and podcasts and shared them within the school.

- Encourage the Club to be part of something bigger by supporting [Rotary's causes](#) Eg End Polio, Give Every Child a Future, End Trachoma Project, Lift the Lid on mental Health – Lift the Lid Walk – excellent resources for schools. Shelter Box, Mercy Ships. It doesn't always have to be fundraising – eg. an awareness campaign for the number of local homeless or marginalised individuals
- Show the world how Interact members take action during World Interact Week in November. Download your [World Interact Week Certificate of Recognition](#) .
- Submit a video for the annual Interact Video Awards that shows your club in action. The theme and submission guidelines are posted each October. Follow Interact on [YouTube/FaceBook/Instagram](#) for details.