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Visit: French students visit Bristol Metropolitan Academy, in Fishponds, with French student Yassine Chaouki, 13, and English student Halima Hussain, 15, at front

Photograph: Michael Lloyd

## Our French connection

THERE was a touch of entente cordiale at one Bristol school this week as a group of visitors from across the Channel stopped by on a fact-finding mission.

A party of 43 French students and their teachers are visiting Bristol Metropolitan Academy in Fishponds. The students, from College Irene Juliot Curiea in Paris, have been gaining an insight into the daily lives of English school pupils.

Year ten and 11 Bristol students have been corresponding with their Parisian counterparts over the last three months and this was the first time they have met in person. The students were greeted by principal Steve Taylor before enjoying a day of activities.

The students will meet up in Paris later this year when the French school will host the Bristol staff and students.

Aurelie Andouard and Anne-Marie Smith, French teachers who organised the visit, said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to mix with their French counterparts. Both our students and our French colleagues and students will learn a lot."