



MULTI is an international youth exchange programme. It takes place in August in Oberhausen in Germany. Every two years young people aged 12+ have the chance to visit and stay with a host family. Twinned since 1974, Middlesbrough and Oberhausen have been running youth exchanges since 1953.

In recent years, Linx has worked closely with the Borough Council and other partners to enable both Youth Workers and young people to be involved in exchanges between the two towns and for young people to be involved in the MULTI biennial gatherings.

Linx has supported the following activities 2017-20:

- Working with the Council, Football Club and others, Linx hosted a visit of German youth workers who delivered a successful two-week programme in Middlesbrough in 2017
- Linx and partners participated in a visit to Oberhausen in Spring 2018
- A group of young people and staff attended the annual Multi event in Oberhausen in August 2018, which involved 16 countries across the world
- German young people and youth workers were hosted in Middlesbrough by Linx again in 2019
- Young people and staff from Middlesbrough were invited to Germany for Multi-2020 in the summer of 2020, but it has been cancelled due to Covid-19.



Pictured: Linx young people at Multi-2018, Oberhausen



The group at Middlesbrough Town Hall

Banging drum for German ties

YOUNG people from Middlesbrough's twin town were treated to a tour of the area's cultural highlights as part of a special exchange programme. And next summer a group from Boro will make a return trip to Oberhausen in Germany. The 2019 Multi-Youth Exchange Programme, co-ordinated by the Hemlington Linx youth project funded

by DCMS and National Lottery Community Fund, saw a 10-strong group visit places including Middlesbrough Environment City, Stewart Park, Middlesbrough College's STEM Centre and Teesside University. A Town Hall tour included a meeting with Mayor Andy Preston and a steel pan drumming session.

Ricky Tomlinson (Linx) hosts the group in Middlesbrough in September 2019 (The Gazette 27/9/19)

This type of activity and exchange gives both staff and young people a real boost, opens them up to different perspectives and enables them to meet and share experiences and learning with young people and youth workers from across the world.

"Dear friends of Hemlington Linx.

Multi 2019 in Middlesbrough was a very successful exchange once again...

(It) will remain as a permanent impression for our youngsters that will have a huge influence on their attitudes towards Middlesbrough and the UK.

We congratulate you for a very successful continuation of our cooperation and...are proud of our longtime friendship."

**A Tsalastras, Head of Cultural Department
City of Oberhausen**