

Remarks by Ambassador HAYASHI Hajime
for the 'Jet Alumni Careers Fair 2021'
on 29 September 2021

Dear Friends of the JET Programme,

First and foremost, I would like to thank you for your great efforts in contributing to English language education and international exchange during your time in Japan. I can imagine how stressful it might have been to live in a different culture, especially under challenging circumstances caused by the pandemic. I am deeply grateful for your contribution to this programme particularly in such an exceptional period.

I am pretty sure that many students and teachers you came to know in Japan are already missing you. I trust that you too have come back with wonderful memories of the time you shared with your students, colleagues, and friends in the local communities where you were based. Your experience in Japan will no doubt be an excellent basis for you to continue to serve as an enduring bridge and to strengthen the ties between the UK and Japan. I sincerely hope everyone taking part in this virtual gathering stay in touch and work together for further strengthening the ties between our two peoples.

Also, I would like to express my appreciation to the JETAA, JET Alumni Association, for its valuable support and advice. JETAA is here to help those who make the most of their rich experience gained overseas as they embark on their new career. Lastly, let me conclude by thanking Mr. Suzuki Yasuyuki and his colleagues at the Japan Local Government Centre for organising this wonderful occasion today.

Thank you very much indeed.