

Affiliate School Bulletin: July 2025

A message from the National Consortium for Languages Education

Building on the learning from its successful work with the Language Hubs programme, NCLE is preparing for a new phase of operation which will officially launch in the new academic year. We remain firmly committed to bringing about constructive change in languages teaching and learning and to promoting the value of the intercultural dimension and multilingualism.

A message from the Trent and Tame Team

We've really enjoyed working with you throughout the 24-25 academic year and hope that our focus on motivation, spontaneous speaking and the new GCSE has supported you to raise the profile of languages in your setting, increase intrinsic motivation in your classrooms and improved outcomes for your students. Full details of our CPD programme for the next academic year will be available at the start of September 2025.

We also hope your summer term to do list is nearly completed. Our final newsletter of the term focuses on one job which might not have been ticked off yet! European Day of Languages taking place on the 26th September 2025.

Actions from this bulletin:

1. If you are moving schools or would like to unsubscribe, please update your contact details by e-mailing ttlh@atlp.org.uk
2. [Download the takeaways from our most recent CPD event focusing on the new GCSE.](#)
3. Read our top tips for planning your European Day of Languages activities on [page 2 of this bulletin.](#)
4. Sign up for [Swanswell Language Network's webinar](#) on the 09/09/25 focusing on EDOL.
5. Don't miss the fabulous blog posts on [Chris Hughes website](#) about why we should all learn languages.

How can I make European Day of Languages a success in my school? Tuesday 9th September. 3.30pm - 4.30pm on Zoom.

Join Steph Azarpey, the Language Network lead at Swanswell for some inspiration and free resources to get the academic year off to a flying start. Open to primary and secondary teachers, please register for this webinar on the [Swanswell Language Network's website.](#)



Did you miss our most recent CPD session? 1 year in. Reflecting on the new GCSE, What's working? What's not working? And what are you going to do about it?

On Thursday 26th June, 22 Secondary teachers from across Birmingham, Stoke and Staffordshire headed to Arthur Terry for an afternoon of thinking hard, reflection and action planning.

"The session was really well planned and expertly delivered. Everyone was able to collaborate and share good ideas to use in the classroom".
26th June CPD Participant

Find out what we were thinking harder about and the excellent ideas shared by teachers in our [key takeaways document.](#)

What are you trying to achieve by promoting European Day of Languages?

- 1 Before you put your assembly or activities for the day together, think carefully about the message you want the young people in your school to take away.
- 2 Avoid the clichés. Telling a young person in year 5 or year 8 that learning a language might make them more employable in the future, is unlikely to have the impact you were hoping for.
- 3 Instead, focus on how learning a language will enrich a young person's life right now by developing crucial skills which build character, the ability to communicate and the opportunity to explore other places in the world including culture, customs, music, art, literature and people.
- 4 Share examples of how technology can bring all these opportunities to their fingertips. You don't have to wait until you are in another country to enjoy and benefit from learning the language.
- 5 A little goes a long way! Reinforce the message that you don't have to be fluent to use your language skills. Learning another language is about communicating, connecting with new people and building relationships. You can do that with one or two simple words!



Language Learning Enriches Your Life, Now and in the Future.

Alongside linguistic and cultural knowledge language learners also develop:



**Sophisticated
Communication
Skills**



Character



**Creative thinking and
problem-solving skills**



**Global
Awareness**



**The ability to embrace
change and make the most
of opportunities**

Inspiring Reads

We recently came across ALBARO languages, a website maintained by Chris Hughes, a freelance translator. His blog posts immediately struck a chord with our mission to increase intrinsic motivation for language learning. Check out some of his latest thoughts including [No best language, just a world waiting to meet you](#), [What's the point of learning a language?](#) And [Languages, the thread that weaves through every subject](#).

You could also use European Day of Languages to launch a pupil survey about your languages provision or to set the scene for a Languages Ambassador programme.



**Pupil
Voice.**

[Read our blog post about Language Ambassador programmes if you are looking for some ideas.](#)

Are you looking for some resources or activities to use in your school?



The theme for this year's European Day of Language is **Languages open hearts and minds.**

You can download an activity kit for 2025 from [The European Day of Languages website](#)

There's also a poster and song competition, your students could take part in.

[The European Day of Languages website](#) has a Language Challenge handbook with 51 challenges encouraging learners to step outside their comfort zone.

There's even a languages challenge app focusing on authentic every-day communication tasks.



The British Council has a plethora of European Day of Language activities on [their website](#).



Teachers in the Swanswell Language Network are busy creating a wealth of resources which will be available in September. [Visit their website at the start of term to access these free resources.](#)

Do you know how many different languages are spoken in your school by members of staff and students? Now's the time to find out! Once you know you can approach a group of willing volunteers to record a short video. Ask the aspiring film stars to say hello and I speak xxxx in the language. Then ask them to share their favourite word and what it means in English. The video could be shown in an assembly or at the start of language lessons with an interactive quiz or competition.

You could also celebrate the linguistic 'super-powers' in your classroom by showcasing the range of languages spoken by young people in your classroom. Make a sign for the door or bunting for the walls. Take it one step further by learning greetings or tongue twisters in the different languages.

