

### **Good news in MFL: New ideas for schools to make MFL a success this year**

Webinar hosted by the British Council on Wednesday 3 February 2021 from 16.30–18.00 on HopIn, in association with the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Modern Languages.

**LINK TO THE WEBINAR:** <https://vimeo.com/512875774>

#### **Links for following up on the themes explored:**

##### **1. What lessons have we learned from the Mandarin Excellence Programme?** *Katharine Carruthers, Director, UCL Institute of Education*

- View the PowerPoint (separate PDF attachment)
- View the Mandarin Excellence Programme independent evaluation report at: <https://www.britishcouncil.org/school-resources/languages/mandarin-excellence-programme>
- Schools that are interested in joining the programme, starting in September 2021 should visit <https://ci.ioe.ac.uk/mandarin-excellence-programme/join/>
- Follow the MEP on Twitter: @ucl\_ioe\_ci ([www.twitter.com/ucl\\_ioe\\_ci](http://www.twitter.com/ucl_ioe_ci))
- Email the MEP team directly: [mandarinexcellence@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:mandarinexcellence@ucl.ac.uk)

From the Q&A/chat:

- Anyone interested in seeing more examples of student work: <https://ci.ioe.ac.uk/mep-summer-showcase/>
- Here is the episode of the #mfltwitteratipodcast which showcases lots of voices from the Mandarin Excellence Programme <https://mfltwitteratipodcast.com/podcast/ep-10-mandarin-excellence-programme-certifyem-charlala-chinese-new-year-and-techtalk-interview-with-suzi-bewell/>
- Asian languages grew considerably on Duolingo in 2020, but Japanese, Korean and Hindi all more popular than Chinese. <https://blog.duolingo.com/uk-language-report-2020/>
- Asian languages also saw significant growth globally. This is the global overview. <https://blog.duolingo.com/global-language-report-2020/>

##### **2. Help your bilingual students get their home language GCSE this year**

*Suzanne O'Farrell, MFL Consultant, ASCL; Bernadette Clinton, Languages Consultant; and Andy Jackson, Head of MFL, Gladesmore Community School, Tottenham.*

- View Suzanne's PowerPoint (separate PDF attachment)
- View Andy's PowerPoint (separate PDF attachment).
- Key messages from Bernadette Clinton:
  1. Around 30,000 students enter each year for GCSEs in "lesser taught languages". There are 21 GCSEs offered in languages, other than English. Mainstream schools are not easily able to offer this range of languages. We, therefore, must work together to build language capability and promote the recognition and celebration of language skills in England.
  2. Local Authorities and MATs have a role to play in setting up partnerships between mainstream and supplementary schools. They can do this by identifying them and drawing up a register of all the supplementary schools that their students attend. This can be done in association with the National Resource Centre for Supplementary Education (NRCSE) who can ask the schools that are affiliated to them if they can share their details. The LA and MAT can

then work with their MFL Departments to undertake the kind of intelligence-gathering that Andy Jackson from Gladesmore outlined. The NRCSE at the moment has some funding to work with LAs in London to do this type of work. Hackney Education has agreed to begin this work in Hackney. The LAs and MATs can play a role in bringing the two sectors together and building links and mutual respect.

3. Supplementary schools can then be encouraged to affiliate to NRCSE in order to receive support, training and QA of their provision. This will give confidence to mainstream schools about the quality of the provision. There are funding implications, of course, which will need to be addressed at DfE level.
- View the APPG MFL's response to Ofqual's consultation on plans for Summer 2021 exams (separate PDF attachment)
  - National Resource Centre for Supplementary Education (NRCSE): <https://www.supplementaryeducation.org.uk>
  - Contact the NRCSE: <https://www.supplementaryeducation.org.uk/contact/>
  - Contact Suzanne directly: [Suzanne.ofarrell@ascl.org.uk](mailto:Suzanne.ofarrell@ascl.org.uk)
  - Contact Bernadette directly: [b.clinton@mdx.ac.uk](mailto:b.clinton@mdx.ac.uk)
  - Contact Andy directly: [ajn@gladesmore.com](mailto:ajn@gladesmore.com)

From the Q&A/chat:

- The National Association of Language Advisers has recently published about the primary expectations of the primary grammar curriculum and language learning. Full details are available on the NALA website: [www.nala.org.uk](http://www.nala.org.uk)
- For support for Polish heritage speakers, please contact [maksi.kozinska@pgr.aru.ac.uk](mailto:maksi.kozinska@pgr.aru.ac.uk)

### **3. Boost your students' qualifications in languages by offering the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)**

*Eva McManamon, Senior Qualification Manager, Pearson.*

View Eva's PowerPoint (separate PDF attachment)

View Pearson's Guide to EQQ MFL options (separate PDF attachment)

View Pearson's Guide to Support for Project Qualifications (separate PDF attachment)

Contact Eva directly: [Eva.McManamon@pearson.com](mailto:Eva.McManamon@pearson.com)

### **4. The British Council's support for schools**

- British Council Schools website: <https://www.britishcouncil.org/school-resources>
- Sign up to the British Council Schools newsletter: <https://www.britishcouncil.org/school-resources/newsletter>
- Follow British Council Schools on Twitter: @Schools\_British ([https://twitter.com/Schools\\_British](https://twitter.com/Schools_British))

### **5. The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Modern Languages (APPG MFL)**

- APPG MFL website: <https://www.britishcouncil.org/education/schools/support-for-languages/thought-leadership/appg>
- Follow the APPG MFL on Modern Languages on Twitter: @APPGMFL ([www.twitter.com/APPGMFL](http://www.twitter.com/APPGMFL))
- Email the APPG MFL Secretariat directly: [APPGMFL@gmail.com](mailto:APPGMFL@gmail.com)