

ALL President's Hotline: Where to with A-level languages? Shape the future! Join the debate!

Bernardette Holmes, President of the Association for Language Learning will be attending a national consultative forum organised by OCR on **Wednesday 21 September** on the future of A-level. The central purpose of the forum is to help ensure that qualifications meet the needs of a wide range of stakeholders. The forum members are from universities, schools and colleges, language associations, professional bodies and employers.

Bernardette will be presenting key issues to the forum and is keen to hear the views of teachers, students, parents and employers about the current A Level specifications.

The principal items for debate are the purpose of A-level and progression to language study in Higher Education.

Please help to shape the future, and send Bernardette your views online in response to the following headline statements no later than Monday 19 September:

ALL Online Forum

Name:

Job title:

Institution:

| Headline statement | Strongly agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree |
|--|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|
| 1. A level languages should include the study of literature and culture: a) in preparation for the study of language at university level; b) as part of a general preparation for professional and personal life after school. | | | | |
| 2. Current AS and A2 involve too much repetition of topics both vertically (i.e. same topics in GCSE and A Level languages) and horizontally (same topics being used across languages and a range of other subjects). | | | | |
| 3. There is tension between assessment demands for A level and good curriculum practice. | | | | |
| 4. Current A2 is a thorough preparation for language study at university. | | | | |
| 5. Current A level develops appropriate skills for students not continuing with language study beyond 18. | | | | |

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| 6. Languages are more difficult than other subjects at A level. | | | | |
| 7. A range of language qualifications is needed in addition to A level to meet the full spectrum of learner needs. | | | | |
| 8. Employers have confidence that A level languages provide appropriate skills for language needs in the workplace. | | | | |
| Open forum. Please share your thoughts. 9. What is the purpose of A level languages? | | | | |
| 10. What should the core A level curriculum include to ensure progression to language study in Higher Education? | | | | |
| Other comments | | | | |
| Thank you for taking the time to complete this consultation. Bernardette Holmes, President Association for Language Learning | | | | |