

Press Release

11/09/2014

***ALL Connect: connecting up language learning***

With the arrival of the new national curriculum in England from September 2014, the teaching of languages is now compulsory for all 7 – 14 year olds in England. This may be a challenge for colleagues in primary schools, many of whom will be teaching languages for the first time, and for those in secondary schools, who will need to assess the progress students have made, and build on these foundations. So where do language teachers across the country find the support and advice they need to rise to these new challenges?

The Association for Language Learning (ALL) is the UK's major subject association for teachers of all languages, at all levels, and in all sectors – so it is well placed to offer support, advice and training on the teaching of languages to colleagues working in primary, secondary and beyond.

We are delighted to announce that ALL has received funding from the Department for Education to provide CPD on the new curriculum for teachers in KS2 and KS3. The ALL Connect project will operate initially in the North East, East and the North Midlands regions working in partnership with Regional Co-ordinators at Comberton Village College in Cambridgeshire; the North Leadership Centre, part of the School of Education, Communication and Language Sciences at Newcastle University (which houses Network for Languages North East and is co-ordinating the North East Teaching Schools Partnership); and Network for Languages East Midlands, a specialist centre within the School of Arts & Humanities at Nottingham Trent University. The project will offer free face to face and online training on major themes such as speaking, writing, grammar, transition and progression to those working in mainstream education. The training model is teacher-led and training will be provided at a local level by Lead Teachers to colleagues from the primary and secondary sectors. This will offer participants the opportunity to train and network with peers and to share best practice together.

ALL Connect will also be working with ALL's partner organisations to offer a much wider 'enhancement' programme for teachers, allowing them to take control of their professional development, and access a broad range of professional development opportunities and international activities.

ALL already has hundreds of volunteers providing local, school-to-school support across the country through branches and networks. We have been busy developing a network of Primary Hubs run by these wonderful volunteers. Many of these new Hubs offer training and upskilling courses for primary teachers to get the confidence and the skills that they need. These activities will continue to run in addition to the ALL Connect programme and are accessible by teachers in a broader range of geographical regions of the country. We have also been working hard to provide online support on our website, including information on training and professional networks and guidance for primary teachers on sources of peer support. Additionally we reference a large collection of free and commercial resources available to support language teaching from ages 7-14, chosen by members of the DfE Expert Panel and of the ALL Primary Special Interest group, and listed by language.

**ENDS**

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**Notes to Editors:**

1. **The Association for Language Learning (ALL):** is the UK's major professional association for teachers of foreign languages, with around 5,000 members in all educational sectors. [www.all-languages.org.uk](http://www.all-languages.org.uk)
  - About **ALL's Primary Hubs**, and where they are: <http://tiny.cc/ALLLocal>.
  - About the **support that ALL offers on its website**: <http://tiny.cc/ALLSupport>, which includes:
    - Information on CPD and professional networks (<http://tiny.cc/ALLSupportCPD>)
    - Guidance for primary teachers on sources of peer support (<http://tiny.cc/ALLSupportTeachers>)
    - A collection of the free and commercial resources available to support language teaching from ages 7-14, chosen by members of the DfE Expert Panel and of the ALL Primary Special Interest group as ones they use (<http://tiny.cc/ALLSupportResources>). They are listed by language, and include resources, publications, websites and online materials for developing cultural awareness.
2. **The new national curriculum for England:** The national curriculum statutory programmes of study and attainment targets for languages at key stages 2 and 3 are now available. They will be taught in England from September 2014.
  - [National curriculum in England: languages programmes of study](#)
  - [National curriculum in England: languages programme of study - key stage 2](#)
  - [National curriculum in England: languages programme of study - key stage 3](#)