

Response ID ANON-UD96-69XM-V

Submitted to **Approving the development of new Apprenticeship Standards September 2016**

Submitted on **2016-10-14 09:34:11**

Introduction

1 What is your name?

Name:

Rachel Middleton

2 What is your email address?

Email:

rachelm@all-languages.org.uk

3 What is your organisation?

Organisation:

Association for Language Learning

4 Which proposal are you commenting on?

Proposal Name:

Teacher

Teacher

134 Do you support the development of the Apprenticeship Standard set out in the Expression of Interest?

Yes

Comment here:

There is potential in this scheme however we do have some subject-specific reservations about linguistic competence as well as developing language teaching methodology and practice, which are referenced in answer 135.

135 An Apprenticeship Standard must involve rigorous and substantial training of over a year to achieve full competence. Do you think this Apprenticeship Standard would take at least 12 months to develop the skills, knowledge and behaviour required for sufficient competence in this occupation? If no please give details.

Not Answered

Comment here:

We are however concerned about subject specialism training and level of language competence, given that we are the association representing and supporting teachers of foreign languages in the UK school system.

We are already aware that there are many non-specialists teaching languages in the primary sector and would be concerned that those following an apprenticeship via a primary route would therefore not be able to develop their linguistic competence necessarily within the primary setting alone, without access to subject specialists. There would need to be intervention from elsewhere such as language study at a secondary school, in FE or at a university.

We are also concerned that apprentices training via a primary apprentice route may not develop the pedagogical methodology and practices which underpin the sound teaching of modern languages.

There are some issues with regards to exposure to language and to observing teaching of foreign languages both within primary settings and also in sixth forms, where language teaching provision is often limited. The annual Language Trends Survey provides a very useful snapshot of the state of language teaching in the UK and references the fact that there is very variable exposure at KS2 to language lessons throughout the academic year. This would impact on apprentices ability to develop their own language competence or understanding of language teaching methodology.

136 Are you aware of any other existing or proposed Apprenticeship Standards that may overlap with this one? If Yes please give details.

No

Comment here:

137 (if applicable) Would you potentially take on Apprentices using a Standard developed in this occupation? If Yes, can you say roughly how many you might take on in each year?

N/A

Comment here:

138 If this Standard is approved for development, would you be happy for us to contact you as part of wider consultation? If Yes, what is the best way to contact you?

Comment here:

Yes, very much so.

139 Do you have any other comments?

Free Text:

If the apprenticeship is approved, we would welcome this if apprentices on a language teaching programme were encouraged to become Student Members of the Association for Language Learning. For those studying for 4 years on a language teaching apprenticeship, we would keep our Student Membership rates open for that duration of time. We would also encourage any schools supporting or hosting language teaching apprentices to join as Group Members of ALL to share the benefits of a professional subject association with their apprentices and to encourage participation at regional networking and CPD events offered by the Association.