

This newsletter is being sent to colleagues involved with, or interested in, Home, Heritage or Community Languages in the UK. The newsletter aims to provide key information on developments in the field, including CPD and other events, and thereby to encourage dialogue and collaboration. It is planned to send out the HHCL Newsletter twice a year, in September/October and February. We are in the process of building up a mailing list of colleagues involved in supporting HHCLs in mainstream and community contexts. If you are not currently on the mailing list, but wish to be added please inform info@ALL-languages.org.uk marked f.a.o. Steven Fawkes. Equally please inform Steven through the same address if you have received this issue of the Newsletter but do not wish to receive further issues.

<https://www.all-languages.org.uk/research-practice/language-zones/home-heritage-community-languages/>

UK DEVELOPMENTS

1. HHCL

Established in October 2022 the Home/Heritage/Community Languages Advisory Group is an informal group aiming to support and advocate for HHCLs. It is hosted by the British Council and the Association for Language Learning with representation from other important national organisations and meets several times a year. Extensive information and further resources can be found on the dedicated webpage hosted by the Association for Language Learning and freely accessible:

<https://www.all-languages.org.uk/research-practice/language-zones/home-heritage-community-languages/>

Contributions for this webpage which may include information, announcements, resources, etc can be sent, marked f.a.o. Steven Fawkes, to info@all-languages.org.uk



The HHCL group is co-chaired by colleagues from the Association for Language Learning and the British Council.

2. Next HHCL professional development webinar

Tackling the topic of 'Engaging the Family' this free event will take place on Tuesday 7th November (5.00 – 6.00 pm). Speakers: Fatima Khaled (Peace School), Silvia Fermo (Clube dos Brasileirinhos), Shahla White (Rustam School) and Professor Antonella Sorace (Bilingualism Matters). Please pass on this information to anyone you know who might be interested.

To register please use the booking form here: <https://tinyurl.com/HHCLNov23>

These webinars, led mainly by practitioners, take place several times each year and have proved very popular. Recordings of all webinars can be found on the HHCL webpage:

<https://www.all-languages.org.uk/research-practice/language-zones/home-heritage-community-languages/>

3. Grand Multi-Literacy Event

bit.ly/multiliteracyevent (Online – Live – Free) (29th Sept – 1st Oct 2023)

Organised by Yoshito Darmon-Shimamore (Library4Multilinguals) the event aimed to bring research, practical tips and resources all together to support multilingual families and teachers working with multilingual children. Researchers speaking at the event: Dr Jim Cummins, Dr Ellen Bialystok, Dr Catherine McBride, Dr Nayr Ibrahim, and Mr Jacob Huckle.

Recordings of talks available on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKvLptNLZN7R3hU0rE6siVQ>

4. Beginnings for Bilingual Bridges

Seminar series funded by the British Psychological Society in 2021. A recording of the seminar series is available on the website.

<https://www.bps.org.uk/psychologist/beginnings-bilingual-bridges>

5. Lost Wor(l)ds

This project provides teachers with ideas and tools to integrate multilingualism into the classroom across the curriculum and to develop pupils' 'language awareness'. It includes stimulating activities which take a multilingual approach to exploring nature.

<https://www.multilingualism-in-schools.net/about-us/>

6. National Consortium for Languages Education (NCLE)

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/ioe/departments-and-centres/centres/international-centre-intercultural-studies/national-consortium-languages-education-ncle>

Recognition and validation for Home, Heritage, and Community Languages

'In March 2023 the government announced the launch of the National Language Hubs Programme funded over the next three years with the express purpose of raising uptake in languages GCSE and reinvigorating languages teaching and learning. Led by UCL IOE with the Goethe-Institut and the British Council, the new National Consortium for Languages Education (NCLE) will set up twenty-five languages hubs across the country. Specialist Teachers in each lead hub will work with colleagues in partner hub schools and more widely across their regions developing and sharing principled practice informed by the latest research and drawing on evidence-based case studies of successful teaching and learning from the lead hub schools.

While the focus will be on the most frequently taught languages, French, German and Spanish, the spotlight will be shared with home, heritage, and community languages. The programme recognises the central importance and value of languages spoken in addition to English by one in every five of our learners. NCLE intends to develop at least five of the lead language hubs as specialist centres of excellence with regard to the support and validation of HHCL languages. These lead hubs will become assessment centres for HHCL languages. Specialist Teachers will train speaking assessors for GCSE and examiners for A Level and will support schools across the region to strengthen provision and access to routes into qualifications for the many young people who currently face significant obstacles in validating the languages they speak. Our intention is to develop closer cooperation with supplementary schools and to involve teachers of heritage languages, who are normally untrained volunteers, in wider opportunities to cooperate with mainstream teachers and engage in professional development.

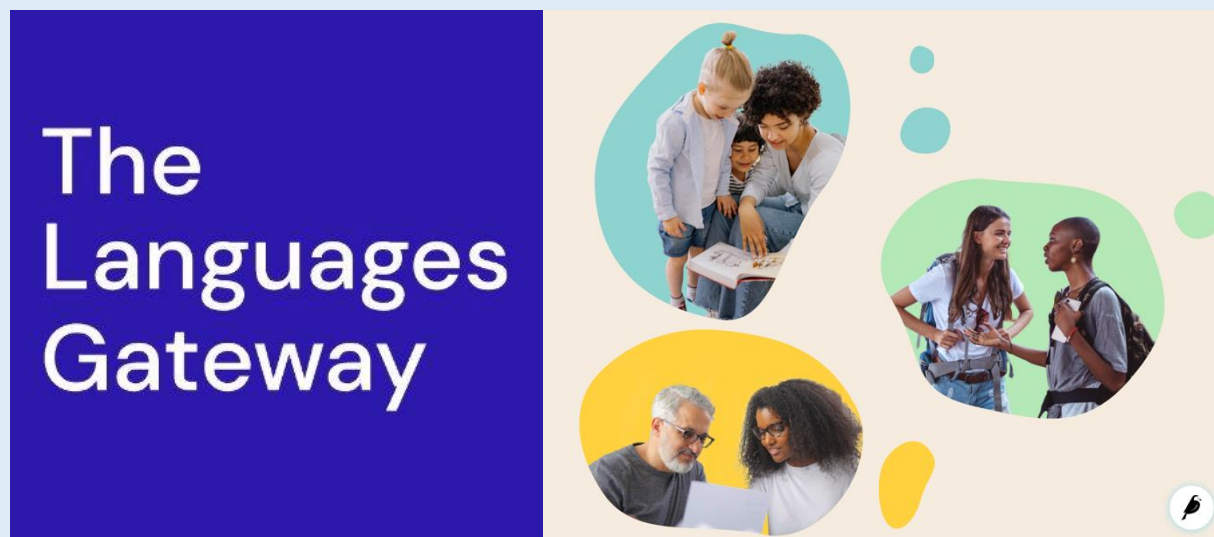
If we are to realise a vision of a Global Britain, we must leverage the value of the full repertoire of languages spoken by our current and next generations of young people. NCLE is fully committed to bringing about a step change in the recognition and value of all our languages. We are starting to build the infrastructure. To succeed we will need concerted effort. Please look out for our call to action. Together we can bring about constructive change.'

7. Trends towards inclusive, multilingual language policy in the UK

Alongside recent language policy developments in Scotland (1+2 Language Strategy, 2012) and Wales (Supporting Triple Literacy, 2011; Global Futures, 2015), the Language Policy for Jersey Education was published in 2022. This adopts an inclusive approach which supports Jèrriais alongside English and French as well as community/heritage languages. In all documents we see 'foreign', 'regional' and 'community/heritage' languages being brought under one umbrella and links made to literacy and citizenship education.

8. The Languages Gateway: The UK's Portal for Languages

The Languages Gateway is designed to act as a 'one stop shop' for all things languages across the UK, listing organisations, resources and opportunities for teachers, learners, parents and more, across as many languages as possible. Please visit at www.thelanguagesgateway.uk and if you have suggestions for additions or improvements, use the 'Contact us' form to let us know.



9. Critical Connections Multilingual Digital Storytelling Project (Goldsmiths, University of London)

This international project enables young people learning foreign and heritage languages in the UK and a number of other countries (including Australia, Brazil, Cyprus, Germany, India, Italy, Malaysia and Taiwan) to create and share bilingual/ multilingual) digital stories around global issues. This year's film festival took place on Friday 9th June and a recording can be found at: <https://goldsmithsmdst.com/film-booklet-and-film-screening-2023/>

A new set of online workshop resources for teachers is currently under development and will become freely available on the project website in Oct/Nov 2023. A blog on the significance of the Critical Connections project for heritage languages with examples of films created by students can be found:

<https://fohlceurope.blogspot.com/2023/05/critical-connections-multilingual.html>



For further information about the project and a range of resources visit: <https://goldsmithsmdst.com>.

The 2023-24 project was launched on Monday 25th September with the theme of 'Care, Community and Hope'.

10. Bilingualism Matters

6th International Bilingualism Matters Research Symposium 20-21 October 2023 available online and in person (starting ca. 2pm UK time both Fri & Sat).

- Newest evidence and research-based insights on multilingualism and language learning across the lifespan presented by and for practitioners and scientists alike.
- Two fully packed days featuring four parallel streams and three plenaries exploring socioecology and language by Prof Debra Titone; multilingual perspective on literacy by Prof Laura Ascenzi-Moreno and dual-language classrooms and bicultural perspectives by Prof Eury Bauer
- Live streamed and recorded for post conference watching.
- Offering unique networking opportunity with a global community of researchers in linguistics, psychology, social and educational sciences and more as well as practitioners from across education, health, policy and business.

BMRS23 website <https://www.bilingualism-matters.org/events/bilingualism-matters-research-symposium-2023> with the downloadable programme.



11. ASCL documents

In 2022 the Association of School and College Leaders published primary and secondary documents aimed at school leaders on 'Supporting students with home, heritage and community languages':

PRIMARY

[Supporting-students-with-home-heritage-and-community-languages.pdf](https://www.ascl.org.uk/Help-and-Advice/Curriculum-and-assessment/Key-stage-3-and-4/Supporting-Students-with-Home,-Heritage-and-Commun) (ascl.org.uk)

SECONDARY

<https://www.ascl.org.uk/Help-and-Advice/Curriculum-and-assessment/Key-stage-3-and-4/Supporting-Students-with-Home,-Heritage-and-Commun>

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Advances in digital technology in recent years have made it easier to keep abreast of developments in heritage language education worldwide as the next few items show:

12. Heritage Languages Global Think Tank

Established in 2023, this is a group of passionate professionals from across the world involved in heritage language education, who come together regularly to generate ideas about how to improve the recognition, visibility, vitality, quality, and sustainability of Community-Based Heritage Language (CBHL) educational programs worldwide.

<https://www.hlenet.org/thinktank>

13. Coalition of Community-Based Heritage Language Schools (USA)

A nationwide initiative established to support, guide, and promote the interests of community-based heritage language schools and organizations across the United States.

<https://www.heritagelanguageschools.org/>

The Coalition organises an annual conference, on Oct 13-14 this year (Virtual as well as In-person options)

<https://www.american.edu/soe/iie/heritage-language-conference.cfm>

14. Sydney Institute for Community Languages Education (SICLE)

https://www.sydney.edu.au/arts/our-research/centres-institutes-and-groups/sydney-institute-community-languages-education.html#uniqueId_AyWJ6hyg_0_button

Open Languages Resource Portal

<https://openlanguage.org.au>

15. Global Seal of Biliteracy

Developed in the USA this is an award that validates, certifies and encourages students to pursue and attain high level mastery of two or more languages. The scheme is currently being trialled with Arabic-English in the UK.

<https://theglobalseal.com/international-landing>

16. Forum of Heritage Language Coalitions in Europe (FOHCL)

Collaboration between several organisations involved with heritage language education in Europe.

<https://www.hlenet.org/fohlc-europe>

The 3rd annual free, online conference this year will take place 10-11 November:

<https://www.hlenet.org/events/fohlce2023>

There is a FOHCL blog which is worth taking a look at:

<https://fohlceurope.blogspot.com>

17. Supporting Multilingual Classrooms

<https://multilingualclassrooms.ecml.at/>

The Supporting Multilingual Classrooms work, coordinated by Professor Terry Lamb (University of Westminster) and a member of HHCL, is funded by the European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML) of the Council of Europe together with the European Union. It consists of workshops for teachers (in mainstream and voluntary schools), headteachers, teacher educators, curriculum developers, and policy makers and is designed to support the development of classroom and whole-school activities which value our multilingualism and enable children to draw on all their languages as a rich resource for learning.

The initiative introduces a wide range of successful ECML projects and resources which focus on inclusive, plurilingual and intercultural approaches. The Supporting Multilingual Classrooms website (<https://multilingualclassrooms.ecml.at/>) provides a taste of some of our activities and the resources we use to encourage you to explore further. All resources on the ECML website (<https://www.ecml.at/>) are available for downloading free of charge.



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