



Darnelle Constant-Shepherd is a retired UCL Institute of Education Primary Language ITT specialist with over 30 years' experience in the field of language teaching and learning in the secondary and primary phases, in the UK. She completed her masters in Applied Linguistics in the 90's at Birkbeck University when she was posted with an educational service working to provide access to the whole curriculum for refugee learners from Kurdistan, Afghanistan and Zaire (Republic of Congo). Darnelle is passionate about language learning from an early age. As such has dedicated the last 10 years of her teaching career promoting the need for foreign languages to be taught in primary schools. Darnelle is very clear that language learning is an open door to learning about other cultures and creating personal link with the people whose language we are learning. She is also very clear that through language we are teaching the next generation how to build bridges to a brighter and equal future for all. A decolonised primary language curriculum is the way forward to achieve this goal.

Amy Lennon is a Primary School Teacher in London. Currently in her third year of teaching, she leads the Modern Languages department at her school as well as Religious Education and PSHE. A passionate linguist, she completed her PGCE in Primary Education with a specialism in MFL at UCL Institute of Education, conducting a research project on the fundamental role of Intercultural Understanding in increasing children's motivation for language learning. Amy has always been interested in other cultures and spent five years travelling the world performing in shows as a professional figure skater before completing her Undergraduate degree in Psychology at The Open University. Before embarking on a career in teaching, Amy spent time working for a charity and then in NHS Mental Health Services, teaching courses about mental health and wellbeing to local communities in North London. Amy is enjoying introducing and exploring new cultures with her pupils in their language lessons as she re-examines what it means to learn another language and explore the many cultures that go along with it.





Ellie Chettle Cully is a primary-qualified teacher with a degree in French and Hispanic Studies from the University of Liverpool, currently working as the Languages and International Dimension Lead, Music Lead and English Lead at a multilingual, inner-city primary in Leicester. Following graduation, and having spent time living in both France and Venezuela, Ellie completed her Primary PGCE at the University of Leicester and has spent over a decade working in various roles at several schools within the city of Leicester, including as a Year 5 and Year 6 class teacher and Key Stage Two Lead. During this time, she also completed a Masters in Education, with a focus on the experiences of EAL pupils in English lessons. Ellie took up her currently role five years ago and has helped to develop French from a marginalised and under-taught subject to the bedrock on which the International Dimension of the school's curriculum is built. Ellie teaches French to the whole of Key Stage Two, manages the school's many partnerships with institutions around the

French-speaking world, and plans and leads cross-curricular projects to give context to language-learning. She strongly believes that language teaching should challenge stereotypes, empower pupils to redefine their view of the world and enable them to become increasingly conscious global citizens.

Suzi Bewell has 23 years' experience of teaching French, Spanish and German, and more recently Mandarin, is a SSAT Lead Practitioner for language and also runs her own successful educational consultancy

Suzi loves to work with new and experienced teachers of all languages and share ideas and resources. Since discovering the work of The British Council and eTwinning, Suzi has developed a very keen interest in intercultural understanding and is pleased to see that cultural capital is a talking point at present, in educational circles. Suzi loves to teach using authentic resources and has invested time and money travelling to Francophone Africa to ensure that her own understanding is true and up to date.



Suzi is very keen to play an active role in the Decolonizing MFL Primary SIG and work alongside other teachers to help them to further develop their practices.



Maud Waret is an accomplished educator with a diverse background, holding dual French and West African heritage and currently residing in the United Kingdom. As a dedicated feminist, environmentalist, and humanist, she firmly believes in education as a fundamental right and an inalienable duty. Her educational philosophy centers on providing all children with access to a rich, varied, and challenging curriculum that equips them with the necessary tools to comprehend and navigate the world they inhabit.

Currently, Mrs. Waret serves as a Foreign Languages and Humanities teacher at a state secondary school in Archway, North London. She is also a senior curriculum developer at the IOE, UCL. She holds a distinguished academic background, having studied literature and history at the Sorbonne in France, followed by completing her Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) at Goldsmiths, University of London.

Drawing from her classical education in the humanities, Ms. Waret recognised the critical need for a comprehensive and innovative overhaul of the curriculum to address the predominance of Eurocentric perspectives in popular culture and general knowledge. Consequently, she has initiated a series of online presentations to share her expertise in decolonising the curriculum, promoting black history, and exploring black and mixed-race experiences. Her work also focuses on highlighting indigenous cultural identities and their representations in media, contributing to a more inclusive and diverse educational landscape.