

Newsletter

Summer 2015

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Why Learn a Language?

More than 75% of the world's population does not speak any English at all. Having a grasp of other languages will enable young people to explore different cultures in more depth in order to become true global citizens.

Very importantly, the Scottish economy needs a workforce with relevant language skills. We must, therefore, ensure that young people leave school equipped with the skills for learning, life and work they will need for a successful future in a global society.

Learning languages can be a fun and motivating experience. It gives learners a deeper understanding of how their own language works and develops their confidence and literacy skills. (SCILT)

1+2 Languages 'A Brief Overview'

The Scottish Government is currently trying to put in place the 1+2 model of teaching languages in schools.

This initiative is based on the EU model which was agreed upon by the European Council.

In 2011 the Scottish Government set up a Languages Working Group in order to make recommendations on how to implement this policy.

This group recommended that children should learn a second language from Primary 1 and begin a third language by Primary 5.

The Government has stated its intention to turn this model into practice by 2020.



What this means for practitioners

Primary practitioners will be expected to deliver languages teaching in their classroom. □

The second Language (L2) should offer continuity from

P1 through to the end of the Broad general Education.

The third Language (L3) starting from P5 does not have to offer continuity but still needs to provide depth of learning.

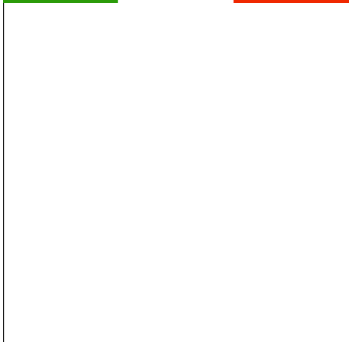
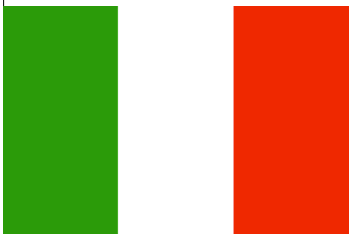
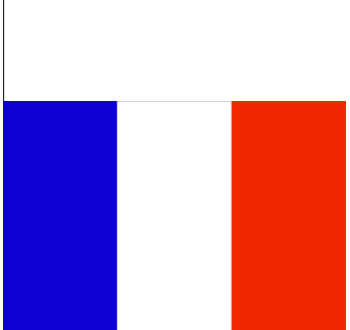
Local Authority Initiatives

Argyll and Bute council decided to create the Languages Forum in September 2014. □

The authority also invested in the Power Language Platform an online resource

which facilitates the delivery of teaching a language. □

The languages Forum then appointed language leaders for each cluster in order to support practitioners in the use of this resource.



A Language Leader Near You

□ The leaders' role is to train and support practitioners within their local cluster in the use of the Power Language Platform (PLP).

This is the online resource which the local authority has invested in to help deliver 1+2 Languages across our schools.

This resource has been purchased from LFEE, a company which has been specialised in training primary school teachers to teach languages for many years.

The language leaders have now received training in the use of PLP and are currently making contact with head teachers within their cluster in order to discuss implementation of the 1+2 Languages policy.

The language leaders who have been appointed are as follows:

Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay:
Maggie MacLellan- Port Charlotte,

Karen Baird-Furnace,

Lesley Ronald-Dalintober

Oban, Lorne and the Isles:
Michael Skelton-Taynuilt

Catrina Murphy-Appin

Iona Mackinnon-Dalmally

Ilona McLaurin-Park(Oban)

Yvonne Cameron- Buessan

Deedra Chase-Salen

Cowal and Bute:

Gwen MCCrossan-Kirn/Kilmodan

Catherine McKirdy-Tighnabruaich

Georgeann Martin- North Bute

Helensburgh and Lomond:

Kelly Girling-Cardross

Maria MacArthur- JLB(Helensburgh)

Caroline McMullan-JLB(Helensburgh)

Power Language Platform

This resource is available at

<http://www.plplatform.net/>

All Argyll and Bute staff can obtain access to the resources the site provides with

username: Argyll-Bute

Password: Argyll-Bute1

A French and Spanish version of the teaching resources are available

Gaelic and German resources are currently being created.

□