

Language Learning Facts*

* 75% of the world's population do not speak English.

* It's estimated that **up to 7,000 different languages** are spoken around the world.

* **2,200** of the world's languages can be found in **Asia**, while Europe has a mere 260.

* The world's **most widely spoken languages** are: Mandarin, English, Spanish, Arabic, Bengali, Russian, Portuguese, Japanese, German and French.



* Many scientists also believe that knowledge of another language can **boost your brainpower**. A study of monolingual and bilingual speakers suggests speaking two languages can help slow down the brain's decline with age.

* Nearly every language uses a similar grammatical structure, even though they may not be linked in vocabulary or origin.

* According to research, on average, people who use languages in their jobs earn 8% more.

* information obtained from <http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/guide/languages.shtml>

1 + 2 : A guide for teachers and parents



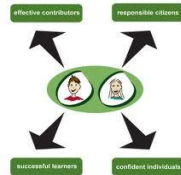
West Lothian
Council



*How modern languages will be
implemented in the Primary
School*



A Curriculum for Excellence – the four capacities and 1+2



- **Successful Learners**

Language learning has positive benefits and can enhance cognitive and linguistic development.

- **Confident Individuals**

Our children will be able to confidently deliver presentations in another language and will be more able to converse with other nationalities on a personal level.



- **Effective Contributors**

Pupils will be able to enhance their interpersonal skills by working individually or alongside others on the target language.

- **Responsible Citizens**

Our children will increase their awareness of other cultures and have a better understanding of their own. This awareness will open doors for our young people and increase their awareness of the globalised world we live in.

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What does this mean for pupils and teachers?

Language learning is life enhancing, culturally enriching and part of being a global citizen. The Curriculum for Excellence states that by 2020 all children in Scotland will learn a modern language from Primary 1 (L2) and then start to learn another language (L3) from Primary 5.

All teachers will be involved in language teaching and there will be many opportunities to enhance teaching skills through training courses. The foreign language will be embedded in classroom routines such as reciting the day and date in L2 and responding appropriately to classroom instructions. The entitlement of every young person to learn a modern language will continue to at least third level, which for most learners will mean until the end of S3.

Why is this happening now?

1+2

This is happening to address the skills gap in modern languages in Scotland and improve employability and business links.

What will lessons look like?

Lessons will be structured in a variety of ways. Some lessons will be delivered through games, songs, stories, flashcards and role-play. In addition, other lessons will be tied to interdisciplinary learning, project work and making links through the use of IT.

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