

Consultation Questions

Section 1

1. Do you agree with the reasons given for promoting and learning languages on pages 4 and 5, and that these are the main reasons for supporting current language initiatives in Scotland? If not, why not?

Yes, fully agree.

ESOL provision is increasingly a need in schools. Meanwhile, Perth & Kinross Modern Languages is working closely with the arts in

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| <p>2. Do you agree that the language initiatives described on pages 6 & 12 and elsewhere are the key areas for language promotion in Scotland? If not, why not?</p> | <p>schools, e.g. inviting a Chinese composer and a choreographer, along with the artist Professor Zhou, to work with our pupils in 2007; Tai Chi and calligraphy; Chinese teahouse and performance with artists and pupils. Working with S2 pupils on script-writing; S1 and S2 workshops on Chinese arts and crafts; using film to bridge various languages e.g. Chinese & Gaelic (Breadalbane).</p> |
| <p>3. Do you agree that the key principles listed on pages 14 and 15 should shape language activity in Scotland? If not, why not?</p> | <p>Certainly agree, but with Modern Languages funding possibly to be reduced by half it will be much more difficult to support the growth and development of the areas such as a diversified range of languages and continuing our recent Modern Languages film project. The cameras, tripods, film and editing equipment is expensive. We have since been told by J. McCulloch that funding will continue in full for 2007. Perth & Kinross are thrilled to have the chance to pursue new approach to Modern Languages in the light of ACfE / AifL.</p> |
| <p>4. Are there any other comments you would like to offer on this strategy in relation to the promotion of languages in Scotland?</p> | <p>The concern of many of our teachers is that newly-qualified linguists often now only have one language to offer, which reduces the "flexibility" of the timetable within a department. Finding qualified Modern Language teachers remains a grave concern to all. This problem is often raised at inter-authority meetings (COALA) as it is a National issue.</p> |
| <p>5. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, how do you think you may be able to contribute to the success of the strategy?</p> | <p>Perth & Kinross fully endorse the strategy and indeed have given much support to schools introducing a new language, be it Spanish or Chinese. As part of the Steering Group for the SQA for teaching Mandarin, Perth & Kinross are very keen to see National Qualifications in Mandarin available from Access 3 to Higher in the near future. At a time when the glass torch for the Olympic Games 2008 is being manufactured by a Perth company, it is essential we equip our young learners for a global future, since Perthshire has already stepped into the Global arena business-wise.</p> |