The National Launch of LEO

Motivate and engage your learners! Strengthen your subject knowledge! Improve outcomes for your pupils!

Develop your languages teaching with **free**, **flexible CPD** from the National Consortium for Languages

Education (NCLE)

Developed by the UCL Institute of Education and funded by the Department for Education, Languages

Educators Online (LEO) offers a free professional development platform created just for languages teachers.

Whether you're an early career teacher or a seasoned MFL lead, you know the power of fresh ideas, inspiring practice, and professional confidence.

Click to learn more about LEO here

Click to register for your free account

Click to attend NCLE's webinar on 8th October

Languages Leadership official launch module

Assessing for SuccessComing up soon

- Bite-sized modules will be launched intermittently.
 - Modules cover key aspects of languages pedagogy
 - A special thread on AI in the languages classroom will support your existing classroom practice.







Upcoming Face-to-Face Teach meets

How do you prepare for the new GCSE speaking exam?

The West Midlands Language Network are hosting 3 teach meets in 3 different locations to enable you the opportunity to take part in our exciting event centred around preparing for and marking the new GCSE speaking exam.

Don't miss out on your opportunity to network with other MFL colleagues and hone your skills!

How do you encourage and develop genuine spontaneous speech?

How do you mark against the new assessment criteria?

Register your place below

Grand Union Teachmeet	 Wednesday 22nd October 13:00-16:00 Register at Tudor Grange Academy 	
Trent and Tame Teachmeet	• 13'00-16'00	
Swanswell Teachmeet	 Wednesday 3rd December 13:00-16:00 Register at Sidney Stringer Academy 	



Culture in the curriculum

As we progress through the Autumn term there are ample opportunities to celebrate the cultures of target language speaking countries. Events like Día de los Muertos, der Tag der Deutschen Einheit (and of course Christmas!) offer vibrant opportunities for cultural exploration and meaningful exposure to the lived experiences, values, and perspectives of other communities.

However, as educators we must be mindful of presenting traditions, symbols or language in an authentic, rather than decorative or exotic manner, and ensure that all materials are responsibly sourced and suitably contextualised. An insightful CPD webinar on Día de los

Muertos in July from Jane Lavery at the University of Southampton raised questions about how we teach about this celebration and honour its complexity in a way that is representative of Mexican culture. Please follow the link to the CPD recording.

Click here for CPD recording

Event Schedule for 2025-2026

Grand Union Teachmeet	 Wednesday 22nd October 13:00-16:00 Register at Tudor Grange Academy 	Spontaneous Speech and the new GCSE speaking exam In person Teach Meet
Trent and Tame Teachmeet	• 13:00-16:00	During the session we'll consider how we can develop genuine spontaneous speech, with examples and emerging success stories shared by schools across the region. We'll also consider how to prepare students and staff for the upcoming mock speaking exams and engage in some moderation of sample speaking scripts. This face-to-face event will be run three times in different locations. Click on the school name where you want to attend the session (on the left) to sign up.
Swanswell Teachmeet	 Wednesday 3rd December 13:00-16:00 Register at Sidney Stringer Academy 	
Grand Union Webinar	Thursday 13th November15:30-16:30	Embedding Phonics Click to register
Swanswell Webinar	Wednesday 14th January15:30-16:30	Supporting Home Language Qualifications at GCSE and Beyond https://Click to register
NCLE Webinar	 Wednesday 26th November 16:00-17:00 	Curriculum and Assessment Review: Languages education fit for purpose? Hear from stakeholders from the languages community discussing the recommendations from the Curriculum and Assessment Review. Click to register
Trent and Tame Webinar	 Thursday 29th January 15:30-16:30 	Using Al for spontaneous speaking development Click to register
Grand Union Webinar	 Wednesday 4th March 15:30-16:30 	Exploring different Curriculum models Click to register



Introducing Our National Priority Projects

Driving change through research-informed action in classrooms

Grand Union:
A deep dive into
curriculum models

Project objectives:
 Defining optimal
 curricular conditions for
 language learning,
 including the logistical,
 financial and motivational
 impacts of different
 curriculum models.

Swanswell: Celebrating multilingualism

Project Objectives:
To support and
collaborate with Coventry
City of Languages to
promote and celebrate
the linguistic and cultural
diversity across the city.

Trent and Tame: Exploring KS2/3 transition

Project Objectives:
To develop a compelling, cross phase narrative about the value of language learning and how it enriches lives now and in the future.

We look forward to updating you as our research progresses!

Looking back at European Day of Languages

We hope that you enjoyed celebrating European Day of Languages with your students as much as we did, and that the ideas shared in **Swanswell's CPD webinar** gave you fresh inspiration for events and activities in

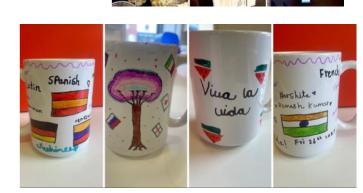
your own school.

"I found the webinar really informative from a non-language speciality. Great to hear a wide range of ideas for inspiring diversity in schools by passionate and skilled professionals"

Swanswell also celebrated with a Bake off, a movie night and a treasure trail around the school.



Year 7 students from Swanswell decorated mugs to commemorate the theme of European Day of Languages this year which was 'Languages open hearts and minds'.



Partners in Language

Routes into Languages, now managed by the University Council of Modern Languages, continues to support schools to access wider curricular and outreach activities to promote love of languages.

The West Midlands branch operates through the University of Warwick.

Click here to view events and sign up for newsletter



Watch out for this upcoming event for year 11 language students focused on careers.

This event is part of the outreach and widening participation work delivered to local schools by the School of Modern Languages and Cultures through the Routes into Languages network. This new event is for students in Year 11 and will be a forum to explore the academic skills, personal enrichment and careers opportunities that the study of languages can provide. Students will develop the following:

- language skills
- · societal and cultural awareness
- · careers and employability skills

Students will access three different sessions throughout the day, a taster session in a new language (Korean, Russian, Chinese TBC) a society and culture session and a careers and employability session. The sessions will be delivered by our SMLC academics, Warwick alumni and finalists returning from their year abroad. The day will be supported by our wonderful team of SMLC student ambassadors!

Click here to view event details and sign up



How to get in touch with Grand Union



office@grandunionlanguagenetwork.tgacademy.org.uk



grandunionlanguagehub.tgacademy.org.uk



@grandunionlanguagenetwork



@grandunionIn.bsky.social



@GrandUnionLN

Follow this QR code for the Grand Union Website

