



NCLE Webinar Series

Talking Classrooms: practical ideas for promoting use of the target language

Wednesday 11th February 2026, 16:00-17:00

Using the target language as the medium of instruction as well as the object of study has always been contentious. With inspiration from practising teachers, discover how interaction in the target language is not only accessible but makes a central contribution to progress in language learning. Let's get our classrooms talking!

[Register for this event here](#)

BSL GCSE CPD Courses for Teachers

In preparation for the upcoming BSL GCSE, the Deafness Cognition and Language (DCAL) Research Centre had been working with the Institute of Education at UCL to develop a programme of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) courses to upskill those interested in teaching BSL in secondary schools.

Courses will focus on:

- BSL Linguistics for Teachers
- Language Learning in Multilingual Context for Teachers
- Teaching in Secondary Schools (this course will also cover teaching in primary schools)

Given that, as of early 2026, there is unfortunately still no awarding body for the BSL GCSE, the CPD course on 'BSL GCSE Course Content for Teachers' has been postponed.

The first course to be launched in the 'BSL Linguistics for Teachers Course'.

- Dates and timings: Mondays 5-7pm, 23 February - 23 March 2026
- Cost: £499
- Where: University College London, main campus

This course on BSL Linguistics, taught by leading experts in BSL linguistics, provides an up-to-date introduction to the scientific study of British Sign Language – how it is structured, how it is used, how it varies and how it changes. Focus is on current understanding of how BSL works, based on the latest research.

[Learn more about these CPD courses and course requirements on this webpage.](#)

British Council: Language Assistants Programme (Applications open 25 February)

Looking to host a language assistant in 26-27?

A language assistant can engage your pupils and support their language confidence.

[Find out more and register your interest here.](#)

Celebrate Speaking

Join us to Celebrate Speaking! Encourage your pupils to show off their language skills by posting on social media a short video of them singing, talking or reciting in a language they are learning at school or one they speak in their community. Remember to use #CelebrateSpeaking so we can see your contribution. Our festival of languages runs through February.

[Learn more about Celebrate Speaking here.](#)

Find your partner school

Connect with your ideal partner school in another country. Work together on projects and learn about each other's culture. Sign up for free on the [British Council PartnerFinder](#).

[Find your international partner school.](#)

Chinese New Year Resources

Happy Chinese New Year!

新年快樂

Are you ready to welcome in the Year of the Horse on 17 February? If you're looking for ideas for your pupils to celebrate Chinese New Year, [download this free education pack from the British Council](#).

Promoting languages to parents and carers (GCSE Options Evening Resources)

If you're looking to promote languages at your upcoming choices meetings, check out our posters and postcards designed to encourage pupils to pick languages; and aimed at getting their parents onboard too!

[Download these free resources.](#)

[Explore the furtherwithlanguages.org website.](https://www.furtherwithlanguages.org)

Connect with your local language network

Are you teaching languages in a primary, secondary, or heritage/community setting? [Join your local NCLE Language Network](#) to access research insights, facilitated CPD opportunities and connect with colleagues in your region. Find your local network; be part of a national movement.

[Connect with your local language network by following this link.](#)

NCLE Videos

We have a small but growing selection of videos which could be great for you to use with different audiences (SLT, schools in your trusts and networks, pupils etc). Some are longer 'hero' videos and some short social media-style cuts. Feel free to use them to demonstrate to your community the work of NCLE's language networks and the joy pupils get from learning a language.

Video links:

- [Language networks: the school leadership view](#)
- [Using target languages in the classroom](#)
- [The Lakes Language Network](#)
- [The value of language learning, the pupils' viewpoint](#)
- [Introducing Language Educators Online](#)
- [Languages open up the world](#)

Events for teachers				
Date / Time	Event	Location	Booking Link	Target Audience
February '26	Language Fest North West	Various	Explore competitions and events here	Secondary teachers and language enthusiasts
11 th February '26 16:00-17:00	NCLE Webinar: Talking classrooms (More information on page 1 of this flyer)	Online	Register here.	Language Learning Professionals
23 rd February – 23 rd March '26	BSL Linguistics for Teachers Course (More information on page 1 of this flyer)	UCL Main Campus, London	Learn more about these BSL CPD course.	See website for course participation criteria
25 th February '26	Goethe-Institut: Start your German Club (Workshop and Training Session) This event is part of the Language Fest North West.	Online	Register for this online workshop here.	Secondary school teachers
25 th February '26	Key date: Applications open for British Council: Language Assistants Programme (More information on page 2 of this flyer)	N/A	Find out more and register your interest here.	Primary and secondary schools, further education colleges and universities
13-14 th March '26	Language World 2026	Hinckley	Find more information about this event here.	Languages Teachers and Languages Leaders
21 st March '26	German Teachers' Day for Secondary School Teachers	Goethe-Institut London	Register for this Teachers' Day here.	Secondary school teachers (focus on German, from level B2)

Keep up to date with NCLE events by [joining our FREE mailing list](#), [following us on X \(@ncle_ioe\)](#) and on [following us on LinkedIn](#). [Join Language Educators Online NCLE's FREE CPD Platform!](#)

- [Catch-up with our latest NCLE newsletter here.](#)
- [Register for the Department for Education bulletin.](#)

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Opportunities for pupils				
Date / Time	Event	Location	Booking Link	Target Audience
6th January – 31 st March '26	Express Yourself: North East Festival of Languages	In person and online	Find the full festival offer here.	Children and young people aged 3 to 18 years old
February '26	Language Fest North West	Various	Explore competitions and events here	Secondary pupils
February '26	Celebrate Speaking (More information on page 2 of this flyer)	Online	Learn more about this event here.	Primary and secondary pupils
27 th February '26	Business Lunch with Jad Salfiti: A career with German as a TV presenter	Online	Register for the business lunch here.	Secondary pupils
3 rd March '26	JaLaChamp2026 (Japanese Language Championship for Young Learners UK): Speech Category Deadline	N/A	Find further information about the contest here.	Secondary pupils who study Japanese as a foreign language
5 th March '26 10:15-15:15	Goethe-Institut: German Day – Careers with German	Goethe-Institut London	Register for this study day here.	Aimed at key stages 4-5 learners/pupils who have had at least two years of German lessons.
10 th March '26	JaLaChamp2026: Video Category Deadline	N/A	Find further information about the contest here.	Primary and secondary learners and pupils who have lived in Japan and who speak Japanese at home.
19 th March '26 10:15-15:30	Goethe-Institut: German Day – Culture and Society in Germany	Goethe-Institut London	Register for this study day here.	Aimed key stages 3-4 learners/ pupils who have had at least one year of German lessons.
23 rd – 27 th March '26	Goethe-Institut: Work Experience Week in the Language Department	Goethe-Institut London	Learn more about this opportunity.	For secondary school pupils and university students
16 th April '26 10:00-16:00	Goethe-Institut: Career Roadshow, Keele	Keele University	Register for the roadshow here	Secondary school pupils aged 14 older and university students