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Languages For All

Our mission is to increase the number of students studying modern languages at A-level and at university.

Claudia D'Agostino



What is the problem we are trying to solve?

Numbers of students studying A-levels in modern languages.

2005: 30,047

2025: 24,079

[Language Trends Survey, 2025](#)

A-level entries in French, German, Spanish and Other Modern Languages in England 2015–2024

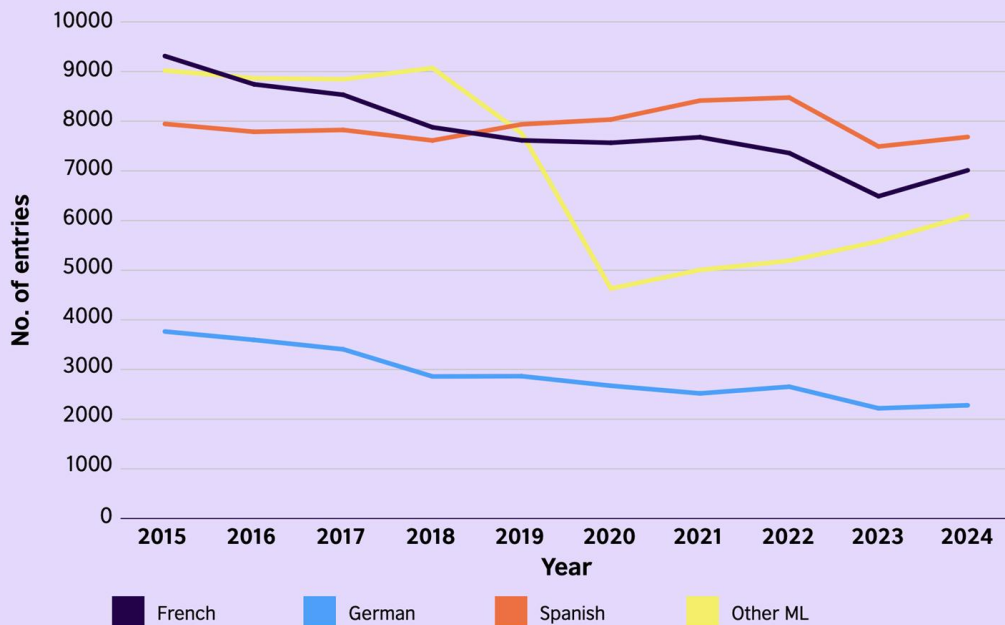


Figure 13: A-level entries in French, German, Spanish and Other Modern Languages in England 2015–2024

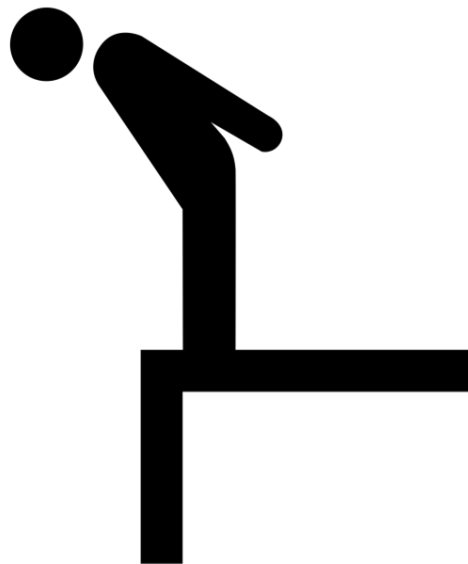
After 16, language study in state schools falls off a cliff.

Case study:

In 2022, in the London borough of Hounslow where we are piloting Languages For All, **1700** out of 3000 16 year olds sat a GCSE in a modern language.

35, progressed to study a language at A-level.

Statistics from HEP, 2022



But what are the barriers to students picking modern languages at A-level?

Barrier 1: Attitude

The way students perceive language A-level stops it being an attractive choice. Students who achieve well, still don't choose it.

Barrier 2: Cost

It costs many schools a disproportionate amount to run A-levels in modern languages because the classes are smaller.

But what are the barriers to students picking modern languages at A-level?

Barrier 1: Attitude

The way students perceive language A-level stops it being an attractive choice. Students who achieve well, still don't choose it.

These attitudinal barriers can be addressed through **enrichment and aspirational activities**.

Barrier 2: Cost

It costs many schools a disproportionate amount to run A-levels in modern languages because the classes are smaller.

This structural barrier can be addressed through **central tuition** (consortium-style class).

Languages For All sets up **local hubs:**

Schools and universities come
together

Enrichment

Aspiration

Tuition



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LFA already runs hubs across the country

2023



2025



University
of Exeter



2026



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What is a hub

Every hub will include

- A group of participating schools
- A university partner
- A multi-year partnership
- Consortium A-level teaching
- Undergraduate student ambassadors deployed to improve language learning
- Employer visits
- Links to other hub universities
- Affordable residentials in Europe for pupils

Managed through a termly Steering Group joint with the University and school representatives.



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How it could benefit your school

11-16

- Raise the profile of MFL in your school
- Support more students to choose languages at college.

11-18 / College

- Boost A-level numbers
- Start a new A-level language
- Sharing A-level tuition with others to make more sustainable
- Share trips to reduce costs
- Use university brand to make languages more prestigious

Calendar of activities for 2026-28

	Enrichment	Academic	Key details
Year 11	Monday 14th December LFA Campus Day, University of Birmingham	GCSE Speaking Exam Support	Each school given 15 places for campus day for its top linguists.
Year 12	Global Languages Ambassador Award Trips to university, employers and cultural institutions Residential abroad (Year 12)	Exam support (Speaking exam)	<i>Schools will join a steering group chaired by the University to feed in to planning a calendar of activities that works for your students and community.</i>
Year 13	University application support	A-level Tuition Consortium-style shared A-level tuition Organised at school level - may include online tuition.	Shared A-level will be open to schools that need the solution. We welcome 11-16 schools without sixth forms into the partnership.

Examples of joint A-level teaching

Consortium

- Students sent from Schools A, B, C to **Hub School**.
- **Hub School** provides the class.
- Schools A, B, C, pay per pupil.

Pros: simple to deliver teaching.

Challenges:

- arranging option blocks,
- sorting transport and
- student accountability.

Joint-Hybrid

- Schools A, B, C teach 2 hours
- **Hub School** teaches 2 hours online to all.

Pros: can work at scale; shared curriculum.

Challenges:

- Coordination of online teaching.
- QA of online teaching.
- Languages offer

Timeline for 2026-2030

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Key milestones	Listening exercise. Identify pilot partners. School sign up	Partnership set up & Steering Group Y11 activities. Workshops to design shared A-level.	Y11, 12 activities. First residential overseas. First shared A-level classes.	Y11, 12, 13 activities Exam support. First A-level results	Year 11-13 activities continue. LFA B'hum hub alumni return as uni student ambassadors.

So, who are the students we're targeting?

- 10-15 students in Year 11 per school
- Higher tier entry, likely to secure Grades 7+
- Students that schools want to support to do the A-level
- All A-level MFL linguists in a school

Up to schools:

- Year 11 students can apply or be selected
- We can support schools with an in-school launch
- Schools will need to bring students to the events

School contributions

September 2026: £250 - 1 year group

September 2027: £350 - 2 year groups

September 2028: £500 - 3 year groups

Emerging impact

4x Number of applicants to RHUL for languages from partner schools.

3x Number of schools able to offer A-level MFL.

5x Number of applicants to languages degrees overall.

2.5x number of sixth forms that can offer MFL A-level.



From the Government Response to Curriculum Assessment Review (Nov 2025)

We want to work with the sector to understand successful approaches to supporting the languages pipeline, including at A level and degree, to meet future economic needs and grow our future supply of teachers. We will learn from approaches such as the Hackney model highlighted by the Review, and the 'Languages for All' programme which has increased the number of students studying modern languages at A level in Hounslow.

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