



Twyford
C of E
Academies Trust

Thames West Language Network

MFL teaching at KS2 and KS3: laying strong foundations at KS2, and identifying and eliminating literacy barriers at KS3

Funded by:



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Activities: KS2



National Consortium for Languages Education

Launch of Wuschel book for teaching KS2 German
Guests included Axel Scheffler and German ambassador

Nov 2024

Start of Primary German project with Holy Family primary school

Jan 2025

Celebration event with Axel Scheffler for KS2 pilot

June 2025

Partner school link created for local primary school with Berlin

July 2025

Review of project pilot
Curriculum planning with Goethe Institut

July 2025

Implemented KS2 German teaching for Y3-6, including Goethe Institut visit

Sept 2025

Participation in German week 2026

Dec 2025

2 visits to local primaries by NPP team to inform activity development and KS2-3 transition work

Jan 2026

KS2 MFL specific ITT training delivered for 36 trainees across 4 London boroughs

Jan 2026

Student, teacher, staff voice surveys conducted and analysed in order to inform next steps

Jan 2026



Photos of the Wuschel book launch, which featured a live read aloud event with Axel Scheffler



"The teaching is **exceptional, engaging** and **highly inclusive**. In addition to this, the further opportunities that we have been able to avail of has resulted in German being **truly embedded into our curriculum and our school**.

The children have **readily engaged** with their learning resource and have **responded positively** to the narrative approach of the textbook – Wuschel.

As Headteacher, I witnessed children who had never been taught a language before **engage so positively** and **make beyond expected progress** in such a short period of time.

In a short period of time these children have made **clear progress**, **enjoyed** what they are learning, and genuinely **look forward** to their weekly lessons.

In one year, the progress has been **exceptional**, the engagement has been **remarkable** and our gratitude is beyond words."



Thomas Doherty is the Headteacher of Holy Family Catholic Primary School in West London

- You can learn more about the partnership between Holy Family Catholic Primary School and Ada Lovelace C of E High School on [LEO](#).
- This case study demonstrates the successful planning and implementation of change in a school setting.
- Check out the 'Languages Leadership' course, '**Explain: Languages Leadership in Practice**' modules 7-11 for more information.



Survey conducted with parents of participating students following 12 months of German teaching pilot:

- **81%** rated their child's **motivation** in German as *very motivated*
- **70%** rated their child's **confidence** in German *very confident*
- **90%** rated their child's **progress** in German *very good* or *excellent*

My daughter **loves the German lessons** at Holy Family.

I can see her vocabulary and **confidence** in speaking **grow** week by week. Her older sister started learning German at her secondary school as well, and it's a **great joy** to see the two of them discuss the new vocab they learned and listen to them **talking about their lessons**.

My child has been **enjoying German** and we've picked up new German words from him. Lessons are usually the **highlight of his week**.

My son has **really enjoyed learning German**, I often hear him counting things in German at home. I am also shocked at how much he remembers from the lessons





- Primary school visits informed activity development and **KS2-3** transition work
- Student survey conducted amongst **KS3** low-literacy students
- Strategies for memorisation and recall trialled for **KS3** learners
- Webinars focussed on key receptive and productive skills in MFL

Thank you for coming to see a Year 6 Spanish class today. It would be great to set up a link between NEPS and Twyford - we could do all sorts of transition work with our year 6's and more I'm sure.

Student survey: Meta-language test (Y8FR)

Question	LL Student 1	LL Student 2	LL Student 3	LL Student 4
What is a verb?	a doing word	a doing word	a doing word describing what you would do	a word that would come before the noun in French - what you're doing
Question	LL Student 1	LL Student 2	LL Student 3	LL Student 4
What is an adjective?	not sure	something to describe something	a doing word describing what you would do	a describing verb
Question	LL Student 1	LL Student 2	LL Student 3	LL Student 4
What is a noun?	not sure	a place a person or a thing	not sure	a person place or thing
Question	LL Student 1	LL Student 2	LL Student 3	LL Student 4
What is an infinitive?	base of the verb (he understands but couldn't explain)	words that show you're doing something	not sure	the base form of a verb



- Correlation understood between low and high literacy students and listening assessment scores.
- Granular practice of phonics supporting attainment.
- End of term assessments: students with low literacy had improved marks in listening, specifically dictation.
- Evidence from student participation in lesson of increased confidence and motivation in MFL.

6) Dictation

You are going to hear someone talking in French.

Sentences 1–2: write down the missing word **in French**.

Example:

Je fête Noël

1. Je vais à la ma
2. ai fait une

Sentences 3–6: write down the full sentences

6) Dictation

You are going to hear someone talking in French.

Sentences 1–2: write down the missing word **in French**.

Example:

Je fête Noël

1. Je vais à la
2. J'ai fait

6) Dictation

You are going to hear someone talking in French.

Sentences 1–2: write down the missing word **in French**.

Example:

Je fête Noël

1. Je fête
2. J'ai fait



Credit: Goethe-Institut [Instagram](#)



Promoting German: KS5 German lessons alongside T-level courses

This video features KS5 students at Ada Lovelace School who are completing a T-level German course led by the Goethe-Institut.

Resources to replicate our project in your setting



National Consortium
for Languages Education

- [Language Educators Online \(LEO\)](#) – the free, flexible online platform dedicated exclusively to the professional development of languages teachers
- [Wuschel Club - Goethe-Institut United Kingdom](#)
- [CPD | Thames West Language Network](#)
- [Oak National Academy KS2 resources](#)

Welcome to LEO
Language Educators Online

AI & EdTech with Joe Dale
Edited by B. Holmes
Explore Courses

The Expert View
Edited by B. Holmes
Explore Pathway

Introductory Pathway Curated by Goethe-Institut
Explore Pathway

Languages Leadership
System-led change, mentoring, and developing communities of practice
Explore Courses

Principled Practice
Learning from what works & evidence-based pedagogy for language teachers
Explore Courses

Assessing for Success
Assessment for/of/as Learning (AR, AoL, AaL) and the new GCSE
Explore Courses

National Consortium for Languages Education

Thames West Language Network
led by Ada Lovelace C of E High School

Supporting low-literacy learners with listening and speaking in languages

Funded by: Department for Education

Delivered by: UCL IDE - Faculty of Education and Society

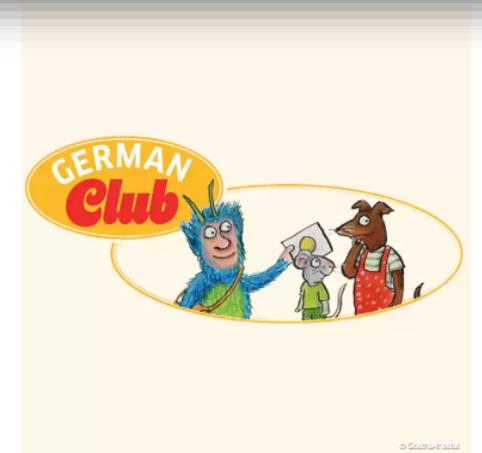
In partnership with: BRITISH COUNCIL

In partnership with: GOETHE INSTITUT

WUSCHEL CLUB

In the Wuschel German Club, teachers will find materials for teaching German at level A1 with little or no knowledge of German. Based around the new story book illustrated by Axel Scheffler, younger learners are introduced to their first words of German through the adventures of the alien Wuschel and his friends.

- [Infosheet: The Wuschel Club \(PDF, 975 KB\)](#)
- [Children's book: Wuschel auf der Erde \(PDF, 6 MB\)](#)
- [Children's book with audio: Wuschel auf der Erde \(PDF, 31 MB\)](#)
- [Audio library \(ZIP, 15 MB\)](#)



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