

# THE FUTURE OF FRENCH X EN ÉCOSSE

French Forward >>>

For all teachers of French  
at primary, secondary and  
tertiary level

Monday 22 June 2026 King's College Historic Campus Quad  
University of Aberdeen



THE FUTURE OF  
FRENCH X  
EN ÉCOSSE

French Forward >>>

Full programme and  
workshop information



# THE FUTURE OF FRENCH *EN ÉCOSSE*

French Forward >>

Monday 22 June 2026

King's College Historic Campus Quad  
University of Aberdeen

9:45

Registration and coffee

Welcome:  
10:00

**Michelle McLeod**, *Head of the School of Language, Literature, Music and Visual Culture (LLMVC)*, **Fransiska Louwagie**, *Senior Lecturer*, **Nadia Kiwan**, *Professor*, and **Clémence O'Connor**, *Lecturer, Department of French and Francophone Studies, University of Aberdeen*  
**Stéphane Pailier**, *Consul général de France à Édimbourg et Glasgow et Directeur de l'Institut français d'Ecosse*



Opening message from  
**Màiri McAllan MSP**  
Cabinet Secretary for  
Education, Culture and  
Gaelic

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**Keynote panel**

**10:15**  
to 11:30

**A roundtable  
focused on French  
in Scotland across  
the different levels  
of language  
teaching (primary,  
secondary and  
higher education)**

**Fiona Barclay**, *Professor of French and Associate Dean (Internationalisation), University of Stirling; Chair of University Council For Languages Scotland*

**Charles Forsdick**, *Professor in French, University of Cambridge; British Academy Lead Fellow for Languages*

**Lisa Hanna**, *Senior Education Officer for Languages, Education Scotland; Depute Director of SCILT; Teaching Fellow at the University of Strathclyde*

**JohnPaul Cassidy**, *HM Inspectorate of Education*

**Laurence Findlay**, *Director of Education and Children's Services in Aberdeenshire Council; President of the Association of Directors of Education in Scotland*

**Lara Freeman**, *Education Support Officer with a remit in Languages and Primary School Teacher, Aberdeen City Council*

**A Principal Teacher of Languages, Aberdeen City Council**

# Resources for further reading

- Article with Wendy Ayres-Bennett on 'Why top-down language policy matters':
  - <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09571736.2025.2562084>
- Contribution to the recent Duolingo collection on HHCLs and broader linguistic ecologies:
  - <https://blog.englishtest.duolingo.com/language-learning-uk-policy-essays-charles-forsdick/>
- Short report compiled by Wendy Ayres-Bennett and Charles Forsdick on Languages and the Government's missions:
  - <https://ilcs.sas.ac.uk/research-policy-training/policy/languages-governments-missions>

# Rooms

- **Auditorium** (here)

Also breaks, lunch, reception in the **James McKay Hall** with the lunch marketplace extending from there in a room on the right.

- Parallel workshops in **KCG7**, ground floor at this entrance



Toilets: entrance of Conference Centre here, but also:



Female toilets

Male toilets



# What next?

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9' tea/coffee break, then we split:

|                                                                     |                      |                                                                                       |                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| each x 2<br><br>11:40<br>to 12:25<br><i>and</i><br>12:30<br>to 1:15 | King's<br>Auditorium | Workshop 1:<br>French Language ambassadors - Sharing and shaping<br>language learning | Clémence O'Connor<br>Nadia Kiwan |
|                                                                     | KCG7                 | Workshop 2:<br>Employability - Advocating for French Language skills                  | Sheena Bell                      |

|                                        |                                              |                                                                                       |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11:40<br>and<br>12:30                  | King's<br>Auditorium                         | Workshop 1:<br>French Language ambassadors - Sharing and shaping<br>language learning |
|                                        | KCG7                                         | Workshop 2:<br>Employability - Advocating for French Language skills                  |
| 13:15                                  | James<br>McKay Hall<br>+ upstairs<br>Gallery | Lunch/<br>Le marché - networking and stalls                                           |
| Worksh<br>ops<br>14:00<br>and<br>14:50 | King's<br>Auditorium                         | Workshop 3:<br>Promoting the use of French in the classroom (FLE)                     |
|                                        | KCG7                                         | Workshop 4:<br>Keeping the Fun in French across the curriculum                        |
| 15:50                                  | King's<br>Auditorium                         | Presentation: Languages and Coding                                                    |
| 16:20                                  | King's<br>Auditorium                         | Closing session<br><br>Followed by networking reception until 17:30                   |

