

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT UPDATE – COALA 29th January, 2016

Funding

I am afraid decisions are still to be taken on budgets for the new financial year so I am unable to provide any steer just now. Please be assured that we know well that LA need to plan ahead. To that end we are working with Ministers on a decision on the funding for languages as soon as possible.

ADES research

In December SG and ES asked ADES to carry out some research on implementation of language learning because we are reaching a half way point. This is informed by the strategy updates we received from you all and will complement that data. It will provide us with a greater sense of progress and of issues to resolve.

It is important that we all work to change attitudes to language learning. This is not about saying it is more important than other subjects. CfE is about breadth and depth and about creating a rich context for learning. As such it is a message about its relevance along with other subjects. So I would encourage you to look at events to link language with employability, with developing the young work force, with media, with literacy.

In this regard SG is endorsing the Language Live Show because it will give an increased profile to languages in Scotland. I strongly encourage you to raise the profile of this show within your Council.

I would like to finish by thanking you and your teams for all you achieve to invigorate language learning and make it relevant to today's' young people every day in school.

Thankyou

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