 

**S2 Pupil Survey: Attitudes to Languages**

**Principal Information Sheet and Consent Form**

What is the research about?

This research aims to better understand pupil perspectives and attitudes to learning Modern Languages in schools throughout the UK via a short pulse survey. The research is funded by the British Council.

Why has my school been chosen to take part?

All post-primary schools in the UK that had an S1 cohort (or equivalent in England, Wales and Northern Ireland) in the 2022/23 school year have been asked to take part.

Why are young people in S2 being asked to take part?

Young people are experts in their own lives. It is only by consulting with young people that we can understand their perspectives and attitudes to learning Modern Languages at school.

Do young people have to take part?

No, young people do not have to take part. Young people will be asked if they want to take part. Their participation is voluntary. However, we need your permission as school principal to allow the survey to take place in your school.

If I choose to allow my school to take part, what will I and my staff have to do?

Your Head of Modern Languages will be asked to share the survey link with pupils through a VLE or school email. You will be provided with a parent/carer opt-out form.

What will happen to the results of the study?

The results of this short survey will provide a snapshot of what young people think about languages. The findings will be published as a two-page infographic report in autumn 2023.

Privacy Notice

The confidentiality of all persons and institutions involved in the research will be assured. The survey will be completed anonymously. Young people will be asked for some personal information (e.g. gender) but this will also be given anonymously. All data will be stored securely in line with the Queen’s University Belfast research data management policy <http://go.qub.ac.uk/datapolicy>

Ian Collen (Principal Researcher, Queen’s University Belfast) and Jayne Duff (Research Assistant, Queen’s University Belfast) will be the only people with access to the data.

Who is organising and funding the study?

The study is being organised by Jayne Duff, from the School of Social Sciences, Education and Social Work at Queen’s University Belfast. The British Council is funding the study.

Who has reviewed the study?

The study has undergone rigorous Ethical Scrutiny and Approval by the Ethics Committee from the School of Social Sciences, Education and Social Work at Queen’s University Belfast.

What if I have more questions?

If you have any questions about the project or want more information you can email Jayne Duff (see below).

Can my child withdraw after having done the survey?

You may contact the researcher, Jayne Duff, with any concerns you have at any stage of the study.

You may choose to withdraw the participation of your school at any time up to 22 September 2023 without giving a reason. Pupils can also contact Jayne Duff with their first name and school name to withdraw their own data from the survey by 22 September 2023. Parents/carers can also contact Jayne Duff with their child’s first name and school name to withdraw after pupils have done the survey by 22 September 2023.

Contact information

Jayne Duff, Research Assistant, Queen’s University Belfast

[languagetrends@qub.ac.uk](mailto:languagetrends@qub.ac.uk)

**Principal Consent Form: Pupil Survey on Attitudes to Languages**

You (the School Principal) are being asked to give the researcher permission, in principle, to carry out research within your school. This permission is required before the researcher gives the online link to participate to your Head of Modern Languages.

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| **You are asked to indicate that you agree with the following statements.** | **INITIAL** |
| I confirm that I have been given and have read and understood the information sheet for the above study (overleaf) and have asked and received answers to any questions raised. |  |
| I understand that the participation of my school is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw my school up until 22 September 2023 without giving a reason and without my rights being affected in any way. |  |
| I understand that the researchers will hold all information and data collected securely and in confidence and that all efforts will be made to ensure that no pupil or member of staff could be identified as a participant in the study (except as might be required by law). |  |
| I give permission for the researchers to hold relevant personal data provided by the school, and members of the school community, in an anonymous format. |  |
| I understand that individual participants will give consent prior to becoming involved in the study and that parents/carers have the right to opt their child out of the study. Pupils and parents/carers can withdraw at any time up to 22 September 2023 without giving a reason. |  |
| I agree to my school participating in the above study. |  |

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School Name and Address:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Please return completed form to*** [***languagetrends@qub.ac.uk***](mailto:languagetrends@qub.ac.uk)

***An email from the Principal’s C2K email account with an electronic email signature will be accepted in lieu of a signature on this form.***