

London Capital L Routes into Language Consortium

Routes into Languages - Capital L is a consortium of eight London universities working together to promote the uptake of languages in secondary schools and beyond.

Capital L is the regional London consortium of the national Routes into Languages project and includes Birkbeck University of London, Goldsmiths University of London, London Metropolitan University, the London School of Economics, Open University London Region, the School of Oriental and African Studies, University College London, and the University of Westminster. Together with the expertise of the Regional Language Network London, Comenius London, Aimhigher Partnerships, CILT, Local Authorities and schools and FE Colleges, the Consortium will deliver creative and interactive projects to enthuse young people about studying languages.

With over 300 languages spoken by its residents, London's cultural and linguistic diversity has long been recognised as one of the capital's major assets. Moreover, languages will become increasingly important for our cultural identity, civic development, and business and investment. The 2012 London Olympics and Paralympics provide one example of the key role languages play in London's future.

The activities of the consortium will be delivered through four thematic strands:

Progression addresses progression from Key Stage 3 to KS4, and from KS4 to KS5, with the overarching aim to enhance progression on to higher education and with special consideration for the Widening Participation agenda.

Influencing the Influencers works with teachers, parents and policy makers to empower them to influence the decisions of young people towards language learning, develop of state-of-the-art pedagogical materials for language learning, and disseminate project findings among policy makers.

Sport and Culture develops projects to inspire the learning of languages through sports and the creative industries, and highlight the links between language, culture, music, drama, film and the arts.

Language in Action: Employability focuses on how and why employers need languages skills, and show how students can turn existing language skills into tangible benefits for their future careers. Associating language with other subjects or relating it to a topic that is interactive, current and engaging for young people is the nature behind this theme.

The Routes into Languages programme is funded by the Higher Education Funding Council for England and the Department for Children, Schools and Families.

For more information, please visit the Capital L, Routes into Languages website on: <http://www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/london>.

You may also direct your query to Capital L's Project Manager, Renata Albuquerque, on ra40@soas.ac.uk.

