



# The Gold Award for Languages

*The Community  
Challenge*

**Routes into Languages  
Yorkshire and the Humber**

## THE COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

The Community Challenge is a way of getting students to use their languages in a positive way within the wider community.

“In the community” can be interpreted quite broadly, but the challenge should not normally be based around the student’s own immediate family and should involve helping others in some way.

## HELPING YOUNGER CHILDREN

Schools are good venues for this challenge. Examples could include:

- Helping with language classes at a feeder primary school
- If your school participates in the Routes into Languages Foreign Language Spelling Bee, students could run “Spelling Bee Club” to help year 7 pupils practise.

## COMMUNITY LANGUAGES

The challenge is also very well suited to pupils who speak community languages. Activities could take place in community centres, places of worship, or in the school. For example:

- Supporting other speakers of their language to learn English
- Helping UK-born children of the same background to learn the community language
- Running a lunchtime club at school to give other students a taste of their own language

## A TRUE CHALLENGE

In order for this to be a valid challenge and for students to benefit fully, they should carry out these activities consistently over a period of time and participate actively. Going into a feeder primary on one occasion and helping to hand out books is not enough. If, however, the student goes into the school every week for a half term, preparing and delivering a short section of the class, that will give lots of valuable experience and enhance their language-learning journey.

Again, the important thing is to have meaningful experiences and to reflect upon how languages are beneficial to the community and what the student has learned from the specific challenge.