



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM

### FLAGS aims to...

- ✿ ... promote language learning.
- ✿ ... establish/strengthen links with partner schools in the Birmingham/Midlands area.
- ✿ ... encourage pupils to continue with languages and to think about possible study options at university.
- ✿ ... provide university language students with an opportunity to play an active part in the development of their discipline.
- ✿ ... develop/improve participants' ICT skills.

### How it works

- ✿ FLAGS is designed to promote less widely taught languages. It wants to generate and fuel enthusiasm for language learning in general and it also aims to develop the awareness of language learning opportunities among pupils in secondary education in the Birmingham area.
- ✿ Each participating school is assigned a group (2-3) of e-mentors who are 2<sup>nd</sup> year university students of the relevant language. At the start of the project, the mentors visit the partner schools to deliver a 45-minute hands-on session, introducing pupils to the new language. During this meeting Y9 pupils will have the chance to familiarize themselves with the purpose-built WebCT website.
- ✿ After this initial face-to-face mentoring session, the pupils embark on an up to 9 weeks-long self-study Web CT course in the chosen language. Pupils either meet as an after school club or a lunch time club (whichever suits the school's and the university's timetable best). Their university student mentors offer support and guidance on discussion boards during each of the weekly 45 minute sessions. The WebCT site also contains FAQs on Higher Education, and information on various degrees and various languages from a student's perspective.
- ✿ The mentors pay a final visit to schools upon completion of the course.

### Languages for 08/09

- ✿ Italian, Japanese (project dates between 29 Sept – 12 Dec – exact dates to be arranged to suit the participants)
- ✿ German (12 Jan – 27 Mar)

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