

SUPPORTING LANGUAGES, INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS AND INTERCULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- International Newcastle (IN) is a not-for-profit social enterprise set up in 2012 and applying for charitable status
- IN and Newcastle City Council work together and with a wide range of local, regional, UK and international partners
- We provide support, broker expertise, attract resources and widen access to opportunities for schools, children and young people, communities and local organisations
- Our focus is boosting languages, intercultural awareness, international connections and experiences
- Our partnership priority theme 2020-23 is...





Newcastle as an international city for children and young people (0-30) as confident, global citizens

OUR ACTIVITIES



International Connections

We broker international links and connections to increase access to experiences, engagement and opportunities, especially for children and young people, including disadvantaged and underrepresented groups.

Newcastle City of Languages

We support language teaching, learning and take up in Newcastle schools and the wider community, supporting the development of skills for the current and future workforce. We also facilitate and promote activities celebrating languages and cultures and our connections to the world.

Internationalism in the City

We support activities to increase intercultural awareness and engagement and promote social cohesion, inclusion and the celebration of cultural diversity in the city and support for underrepresented groups.





International Connections Goals

- All schools have an active international link
- Schools seek accreditation through International School Award (whole school approach)
- Schools are able to visit partners (Turing/other £)
- Build on our links with France, Spain, Germany, India and support wider links across the world
- Schools generate benefits across curriculum, boost language learning, academic & employability skills
- Pupils increase aspirations and skills have access and opportunities for progression

Benefits and impact of international links



- Opening up new perspectives for young people
- Enhancing the curriculum and supporting improving attainment in Newcastle schools
- Enabling young people to build invaluable international connections and experiences
- Improving intercultural awareness
- Supporting language learning



- Improving communications skills, critical thinking
- Raising aspirations and confidence
- Influencing positive education and life choices impacting on future career opportunities
- Visits boost all of these with immersive cultural experiences, team work, planning and the development of friendships for staff and children

CONNECTING INTERNATIONALLY

How we help Newcastle schools and pupils

Supporting schools directly to develop international connections where Newcastle already has links, or with other parts of the world

Encouraging schools to engage with relevant UK, European and international programmes, events and initiatives

Levering support from local, regional, national partners and sharing links to funding and resources to help enhance relationships

Supporting opportunities for children and young people, especially from disadvantaged areas to engage in international experiences and establishing relations



Progress on city schools' international links



- 50-60 international school partnerships
- 40+ links with Nancy (France) and Aragon (Spain) also supporting language learning
- 2 new links with India, 1 with Dubai, 1 with Gelsenkirchen, 2 with Netherlands
- Successful Turing school visits May-June
- 9 schools supported to apply for Turing 23-24 (results by July 2023)

- Schools are adopting a whole school, strategic approach to internationalism
- Languages, global citizenship, environment and other topics part of partnerships
- Widening access and opportunities for disadvantaged and underrepresented pupils
- Dramatic impact on staff and pupils who visit



TURING

SCHEME

Funded by the UK's global
programme to study and work abroad

Connecting internationally: Schools' links and Turing

Supporting schools' Turing applications in 2021, 2022 (16 schools, approx. £600,000 grants, 500+ children travelling) and 2023 (applications April 23)

Brokered 60+ new links for schools, with our twin town of Nancy in France, region of Aragon in Spain, across other parts of Europe, new links with Gujarat, India and supporting other international aspirations

Providing advice and support on developing and enhancing international connections, working virtually and encouraging joint activities

CONNECTING INTERNATIONALLY

Sharing opportunities for young people 16+, groups and organisations

Access

- International events and programmes for young people 16+ to get involved with

Resources

- Sharing opportunities and support for international collaboration and exchange

Relationships

- Strengthening our existing international partnerships and developing new ones



NEWCASTLE CITY OF LANGUAGES

Supporting the teaching, take up and learning of Modern Foreign Languages in schools and celebrating and recognising home and community languages



Built a partnership of local, regional and national partners, Embassies and cultural institutions supporting language teaching and learning

Supporting Primary and Secondary MFL Subject Networks: engaging teachers, sharing learning and opportunities and understanding needs

Widening access to CPD, language resources and international connections to support language teaching and learning

Promoting and celebrating languages and cultures to improve take up, attainment and future education, skills and careers opportunities

Languages goals



- Improve language teaching at all levels in Newcastle schools
- Increase language learning and uptake (GCSE and A Level)
- Support schools to develop international links to countries where taught languages are spoken
- Increase opportunities for pupil engagement in languages and careers activities

- Celebrate and promote qualifications in HHCL
- Increase university links to schools to widen participation and progression
- Increase the engagement in the Festival of Languages year on year
- Profile Newcastle City of Languages nationally and attract ongoing investment, resources and support for schools



Why learning languages and having intercultural awareness is so important



Understanding

Helps you appreciate other cultures and value diversity, helps you gain insights and broaden your perspectives and understanding of the world

Communicating

Builds your confidence, communication and interpersonal skills, as well as helping you develop initiative and make better decisions based on experience

Developing

Helps you become more open to different ideas and taking on new opportunities in your life, being more likely to travel and make new friends and connections

Progressing

Improves your career opportunities and employment choices, as you will be experienced, versatile and understand how to work with people in other countries



Progress on Newcastle City of Languages



Supporting language teachers

- Active primary Modern Foreign Language Network sharing new opportunities, identifying support needs, meeting termly
- Increasing engagement of secondary MFL teachers especially via CPD for teachers: Spanish Teachers' Day, new GCSEs 2024
- Sharing CPD courses, Ofsted inspection webinars
- IN involvement in new campaign (More than Words) promoting language learning nationally (as contributor and speaker)
- Strong engagement of Newcastle schools in Festival of Languages



Supporting home languages

- Promoting home language qualifications and free support
- Brokering native speakers to support speaking exams
- Providing activities to celebrate home languages (Festival)
- Training and support on digital tools for multilingual situations
- Involvement in Newcastle University multilingualism research

Promoting language take up

- Promoting UK/NE competitions and fun activities for learners via successful Express Yourself: NE Festival of Languages
- Promoting local language learning opportunities
- Sharing national institutions' advocacy toolkits/campaigns



- 2020 pandemic forced a rethink – languages slipping
- Newcastle City of Languages working group agreed to try something new, something fun to connect with schools, children and young people and communities
- Developed a regional Festival of Languages
- Hosted and coordinated by International Newcastle with a steering group from Newcastle and Durham councils and Association of Language Learning with input and delivery of free activities by local, regional and national partners
- Started development in December 2020, went live in January 2021 and ran again in 2022 and 2023 with live events in March each year



North East Festival of Languages



- 2021 pilot Festival delivered online with wide partnership support, contributions and resources for a month long-festival in March
- Provided free, fun and engaging activities celebrating diverse languages and cultures and our connections to the world
- Offered live events, pre-recorded workshops and resources to download and use in schools and communities
- 2022 Festival delivered more activities, resources and online and in person events in March and launched 'The Big 3' projects (Feb)
 - Festival Song (video compilation produced)
 - Mother Tongue Other Tongue writing (ebook)
 - Languages Open Doors poster competition
- 2023 Festival launched 'The Big 3' projects in early January, with a month of live events, activities and resources available in March
- We are also encouraging schools with international links to do activities together

FESTIVAL 2023

Express Yourself: North East Festival of Languages is a celebration of the diverse languages, cultures and communities of the North East and our connections to the world.

Now in its third year, we have worked with a range of North East and national partners to bring together a range of free activities, events and resources that can be accessed from January, with live events and activities taking place throughout March 2023.



**North East
Festival of Languages**
1-31 MARCH 2023



**OUR FESTIVAL OF LANGUAGES
AND CULTURES AND OUR
CONNECTIONS TO THE WORLD**

Join us to celebrate the diverse languages and cultures of the North East with free activities and resources available from January and live events in March



- Join in the Big 3 projects for 7-18 year olds**
 - Just one world - Festival song
 - Mother Tongue Other Tongue creative writing
 - Where can languages take you? poster competition
- Live events for schools and communities**
 - Language and culture taster sessions
 - Interactive language and culture workshops
 - University workshops for language students
- Languages and careers**
 - Where can languages take you webinar (29 March)
 - How languages changed my life stories
 - Podcast - Stories from Newcastle (languages)
- Large scale events and UK competitions**
 - Wor Seahorse puppet workshops and parade
 - Celebrate speaking national activity; French Pop Video, LanguageNut UK and NE competitions
- Games and challenges**
 - Interactive languages challenges and games
 - Slogan competition in French (by 6th March)
 - Volunteering and refugees games
- Activities for young learners and families**
 - French puppet shows, storytelling, theatre; Fun with Japanese; Lingotot sessions in French, Spanish, Arabic, Ukrainian, German; Keep fit in Spanish
- Live events for adults and professionals**
 - Spanish Teachers' Day in Newcastle (4th March)
 - Speaking English with non-native speakers
 - Events on language related research and topics
- Free language and cultural resources**
 - Explore free language and cultural resources available from national institutions and cultural organisations, accessible anytime

**SCAN THE CODE TO FIND OUT
MORE AND GET INVOLVED**



<https://expressyourselfne.com>

Festival figures in 2021

11,955

- Children and young people participated

237

- School registrations for activities

95

- Free activities available, including 66 live sessions

Festival figures in 2022

18,125

- Children and young people participated

381

- School registrations for activities

156

- Free activities available, including 98 live sessions



North East
Festival of Languages
1-31 MARCH 2023



21,532

Children and young
people participated

521

School registrations for
activities and events

176

Free activities available,
including 86 live events

44

Partner organisations
delivering free of charge

Most popular activities in 2023

The Big 3 creative activities (Jan-Mar 2023)



6,000

Just One World
(Festival song)



1,560

Mother Tongue Other Tongue
(Children's creative writing)



846

Where can languages take you
(Children's poster competition)

Live events and pre-recorded activities (March 2023)



3,660

Language activities for young learners



2,725

Live languages and careers webinar



2,221

Live language and culture taster sessions



2,100

'What's my language?' Quiz



**North East
Festival of Languages**
1-31 MARCH 2022

FESTIVAL FEEDBACK

CELEBRATING LANGUAGES

The Festival gets better and better! The children at loved learning a new language while celebrating their own language and culture- thank you from all of us!

The children felt proud to celebrate the languages which they speak.



CELEBRATING DIVERSITY



Thanks a lot for providing such a great opportunity for our pupils to share their culture and language!

It raised the profile of heritage languages and our children's talents around school.

WIDENING PERSPECTIVES

Why Languages webinar - just what we needed to reinforce where languages can take you and how they can be useful. A great springboard to discuss higher education and career opportunities with KS4.



NEW EXPERIENCES

Our students thoroughly enjoyed learning a song in a new language.

Thank you for offering these excellent experiences, which we were able to open up to a wide number of pupils.





**North East
Festival of Languages**
1-31 MARCH 2022



FESTIVAL FEEDBACK

LEARNING FROM OTHERS

I enjoyed reading about the life and language experiences of people as part of How Languages Changed my Life - really interesting to find out all the different journeys of so many different people.



SUPPORTING SANCTUARY

We used our involvement in the Mother Tongue, Other Tongue project for our School of Sanctuary application and to amplify the voices of our EAL pupils.



PROMOTING LANGUAGE LEARNING

Our school really enjoyed taking part in the languages festival. A great way to promote languages across our school.



EMPOWERING LEARNERS

As a school we chose to focus on 5 languages during the month, one for each week and the ones most relevant to the children ie Polish, Japanese, Spanish French and Sign Language. The children were very pleased and proud to share their mother tongue with us and become 'teacher'.



2023 Festival feedback



The Festival of Languages was absolutely amazing, our children were given opportunities they otherwise never would have had and they still discuss it to this day! Thank you so much for the wonderful events :)

Central Walker Primary School



As an increasingly diverse community, it was wonderful to bring together pupils and their families around a joint piece of work as part of the festival competition. All involved gained so much from the experience, particularly a real pride in their ability to share their language and culture with others and a sense of confidence that wasn't apparent previously.

Reid Street Primary School, Darlington

Our students thoroughly enjoyed the Arabic session and were very motivated to find out more about the culture and language. We have many Arabic speakers in school and we wanted to celebrate their language and culture to make them feel a valued part of our community.



Ponteland High School

A fantastic experience in the German Year 10 music focus day, and before that with the visitors from the German University.

Hummersknott Academy, Darlington





Festival impact

- Boosts children and young people's interest in language learning and other cultures
- Facilitates a celebration of home languages and exploring children's own cultures, heritage and backgrounds in schools
- Encourages new connections between partners, communities and schools to continue engagement
- Helps widen participation and increase interest in language take up for future skills and careers
- Increases interest in international links from our schools to support languages and wider cross-curriculum engagement and development
- Helps engage more partners who can provide support for language learning, understanding and celebrating cultures
- Gives national profile and recognition for Newcastle and the North-East and our ambitions to support language teaching, learning and take up



INTERNATIONALISM IN THE CITY

Increasing intercultural awareness and engagement and celebrating cultural diversity

- Promoting intercultural dialogue and awareness raising by engaging with partners and communities in the city
- Publicizing partners' events and activities, ambitions and achievements around cultural diversity and awareness
- Promoting access to opportunities for diverse communities, including business, skills and training initiatives for underrepresented groups
- Using the annual Festival of Languages to engage, celebrate and profile our diverse language and cultural communities



INTERNATIONALISM IN THE CITY

Supporting Sanctuary and campaigns

- Promotion of advice, guidance and how to support refugees and asylum seekers arriving in the city
- Promoting volunteering opportunities
- Engagement in Newcastle Sanctuary Forum to improve collaboration and support for refugees and asylum seekers within the city
- Supporting Newcastle Schools of Sanctuary and promoting engagement and links to opportunities for intercultural and language activities in schools



We stand with

UKRAINE



International Newcastle and Newcastle City Council

How we work together to support schools

Declan Baharini (International Newcastle) works very closely with Sarah Edgar in Newcastle City Council's School Effectiveness Team. Sarah is the City Council's lead contact for all work around international relations for the schools and for languages and is the usual conduit for communications with schools. She is also the English as an Additional Language lead for Newcastle schools.

Opportunities for schools are shared via:

- Newcastle Schools Modern Foreign Language Network (co-ordinated by Sarah Edgar) – language teachers sign up with Sarah sarah.edgar@newcastle.gov.uk
- [Services for Schools](#) website
- enewsletter to Head Teachers with input from Schools Effectiveness team
- Sarah's direct contact with groups of schools who may be working on particular issues (such as Turing scheme funded group of schools setting up international links and visits; those introducing new language programmes in schools, Schools of Sanctuary etc)
- International Newcastle's website and social media channels
- We also develop or host events and engage partners to provide resources, briefings and information, and share opportunities for schools.
- We host and plan (with partners) the Express Yourself NE Festival of Languages

Contact: Declan Baharini, Director of International Newcastle

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Follow us on social media

- [twitter @InterNewcastle](#) (twitter feed links to Services for Schools)
- [LinkedIn](#) [Facebook](#)

Visit our website

- Further information about the work of International Newcastle, latest news, a Directory of organisations and also a range of resources available are all on our [website here](#)
- See some of the current languages opportunities for schools and how we support international partnerships [online here](#):
- Languages resources for schools are [shared here](#)

Get involved in Express Yourself NE Festival of Languages

- [Express Yourself: North East Festival of Languages website](#)
- Social media: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#)