North East Festival of Languages

6 January to 31 March 2026

Our sixth annual Festival is bigger than ever, with FREE events, activities and resources for 3-18 year-olds. The Festival aims to spark curiosity, foster inclusion, raise awareness and open up the world of opportunities available to children and young people who speak different languages and understand diverse cultures.

The full Festival programme is open to all schools in the North East: Newcastle Northumberland, North Tyneside, South Tyneside, Gateshead, Durham, Sunderland. There is a programme for UK schools. International schools can engage through North East partners and the 'Together we Fly' world friendship art project.

View the full Festival programme from page 2.

Click on these images for summaries online of free activities, events and resources by age range, category and language.





























Festival participation supports:

Applications for British Council's International School Award levels: Foundation Certificate, Intermediate, Accreditation

Schools of Sanctuary work with activities to embrace the languages, cultures and traditions of all pupils and the school community.

Keep up to date with all the Festival news

Scan the QR code to visit the Festival website

The Festival is part-funded by the North East Combined Authority

North East Combined Authority | Kim McGuinness North East Mayor

WHAT'S on

Create your own Festival programme!

EXPRESS YOURSELF

North East Festival of Languages

6 January to 31 March 2026



Pick and mix from FREE events, classroom activities and competitions to build skills and celebrate diverse languages, cultures and global connections

Creative multilingual projects (6 Jan-31 March)

- **Festival song**: Love is the Only River (ages 7-18)
- **Mother Tongue Other Tongue** poetic writing activity (ages 7-18)
- **Together we Fly** origami project (ages 5-18)
- **Language Calligrams Celebration** (ages 7-9 and 9-11)
- **World Recipe Book** exploring food and cultural heritage (ages 7-18)

Classroom activities (6 January-31 March)

- **Culture Box Asia**: Indian and Chinese cultural workshops (KS2-5)
- **Ursa Lingua's Castle Quest** Escape Room Adventure (KS2)
- **Multilingual Me KS2 lesson**: Exploring and celebrating languages
- **Yorùbá cultural workshops**: Language, Culture, Expression (KS2)
- **French puppet shows - have fun learning French!** (EYFS, KS1-2)
- **Stories from around the world: Food on Film** activities (ages KS1-3)
- **6 Primary French lessons: World Cup 2026** (Y5-6, Y7)
- **Exploring and celebrating indigenous African languages** (KS1-4)
- **Afro-Ecuadorian Fairytales** resources (English/Spanish) (KS2-5)
- **Fun with Japanese** interactive activities (KS1-2)
- **Multilingual digital stories** - 5 films made by children (KS2-4)
- **Fun with Felix and Franzi** primary German lessons (KS1-2)
- **Spanish Cinema in the Classroom** (KS4-5) films with resources

Live languages and cultures events (Jan-March)

- **Munich Supercrew** schools' workshop/concert (KS3-5), 20 January
- **Love Your Language Party** at West End Library, 16 February
- **Love Your Language Day** at Newcastle City Library, 21 February
- **Learn Arabic with songs and games** (KS2)6 sessions January to March
- **Language Student Immersion at Durham Uni** (KS5) Flex: 12 Jan-6 Mar
- **Asian Creative Journeys** (KS2-5) Indian & Chinese workshops, Feb-Mar
- **Afro-Ecuadorian Fairytales** Multilingual Libr (KS2-3) 4, 11, 25 Feb, 11 Mar
- **Language and culture sessions KS2-5 (with careers)** at Newcastle University Language Resource Centre, Flexible dates Feb-March
- **Primary games & stories at Multilingual Library** Flexible dates in March
- **Durham Children's University Primary webinar** (KS2) (French) 2 March
- **Lingua Cub's French Fun! 4 online sessions** (3-7yrs) 4, 11, 18, 25 March
- **Language Treasures at Great North Museum** (KS2-3) 4 March and self-guided teacher-led activities throughout March
- **Experience Japan workshops** (KS2) in Newcastle, 13 March
- **Lingua Cub's Super Spanish! 4 online sessions** (3-7yrs) 6, 13, 20, 27 Mar
- **Wuschel online German sessions** (KS1-2) 9 and 16 March
- **Welcome to China events** (3-18 yrs) 10, 11, 12, 17, 18 and 19 March
- **#LetAfghanGirlsLearn! Webinar** (KS4-5) 10 March
- **Welcome to Japan Workshops** with Durham University (Y5-6) 11 March
- **Bilingual poetry online French/English** (KS4-5) 12 March
- **Mini Olympics** (Y3-5) with Newcastle University, 12 March
- **Durham Children's University secondary webinar** (KS3-4)16 March
- **Ursa Lingua's French Feast KS2 live lesson online** 17 March
- **Y12 French, German, Spanish with Northumbria Uni** 18 March
- **Ursa Lingua's Spanish Surprise KS2 live lesson online** 19th March
- **Creative multilingualism** (KS4) 19 March at Newcastle University
- **Yorùbá in-person cultural workshops** (KS2) 24 and 30 March, Newcastle
- **Welcome to the Arab World workshops** (Y5-8) 23 March, Newcastle
- **Chinese Documentary Film Screening** (14-18yrs) 25 March, Newcastle
- **Bangla workshops in Sunderland** (KS2-5) 25 March
- **Celebrating Bengali culture, language, heritage** (KS2) 26 Mar, Newcastle
- **Multilingual Poetry Slam** (KS3-5) 27 March in Newcastle

Festival competitions

- **La Petite Crêperie Competition NE** (KS2-3) 6 January-6 March
- **¡Cocina y Crea! Spanish Omelette Recipe Challenge NE** (KS2-3) 6 January-6 February
- **Karneval Mask Competition NE/UK** (KS2-4) 6 January-6 March

Languages and Careers events and resources

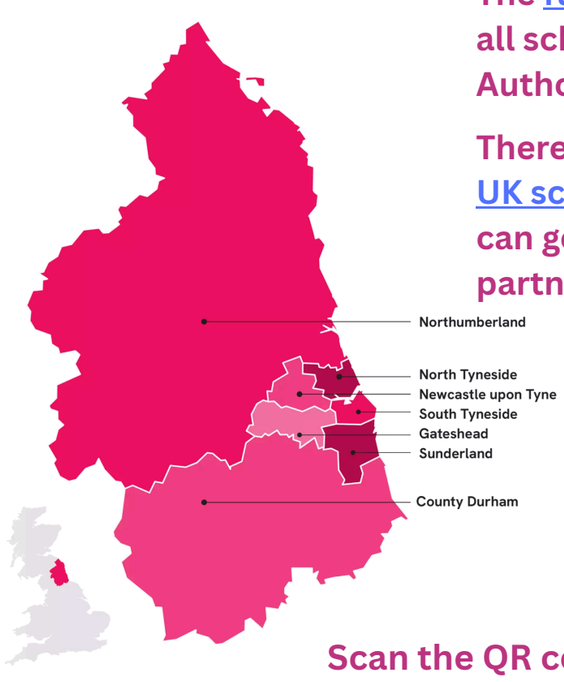
- **North East language and careers videos and classroom activities** Available 6 Jan-31 March
- **Language and culture sessions KS2-5 (with careers)** at Newcastle University Language Resource Centre, Flexible dates Feb-March
- **Modern Languages in the Working World webinar** (Y8-9) 2 March
- **Spanish language and careers webinar** (Y8-9) 3 March
- **Spanish Apprentice Y10 Tourism Challenge** 4 Mar, Bishop Auckland
- **Languages at Work webinar & language challenge** (Y8-9) 5 March
- **Futbol Lingo languages and careers webinar** (KS2-5) 6 March
- **Where can languages take me? Webinar** (Y8-9) 26 March
- **Futbol Lingo workshops at Northumbria Uni** (KS3-5) 31 March
- **How Languages Changed my Life** stories

Events for Teachers

- **Becoming a European Parliament Ambassador School** 29 January
- **Spanish Teachers' Day** at Newcastle University 14 March
- **Designing cross-curriculum tasks for languages** 16 March

UK competitions, celebrations, resources

- **German Week 19-24 January** UK primary and secondary schools
- **JaLaChamp** (Japanese) primary and secondary, November-March
- **World Children's Haiku Contest** (U15s) submissions by 28 February
- **French Pop Video Competition**, register by February, submit May
- **Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators**, open until 27 March
- **Joutes oratoires lycéennes** regional heats to Feb, final in March
- **World Speech Day Japan** 21st March 2026
- **Multilingual Verses** Open competition, various deadlines to 2027
- **Celebrate Speaking!** Festival of speaking languages, 1-28 Feb
- **ENACT Around the World Club packs** (North East, UK, Worldwide)
- **Around the World Education Packs** from British Council
- **British Council languages support** for schools
- **Association for Language Learning** and ALL North East
- **National Consortium for Languages Education**
- **European Centre for Modern Languages**



The full Festival programme is open to all schools in the North East Combined Authority area.

There is a programme of activities for UK schools and International schools can get involved with North East partners and 'Together we Fly'

Scan the QR code to visit the What's On Page

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME BY ACTIVITY

Click on the images for the activity webpages and registration details

Creative multilingual projects - take part from 6 January to 31 March 2026

The whole school, community school and group can get involved in these creative activities. Children and young people are encouraged to take part and express themselves in these celebrations of all the languages pupils speak and learn



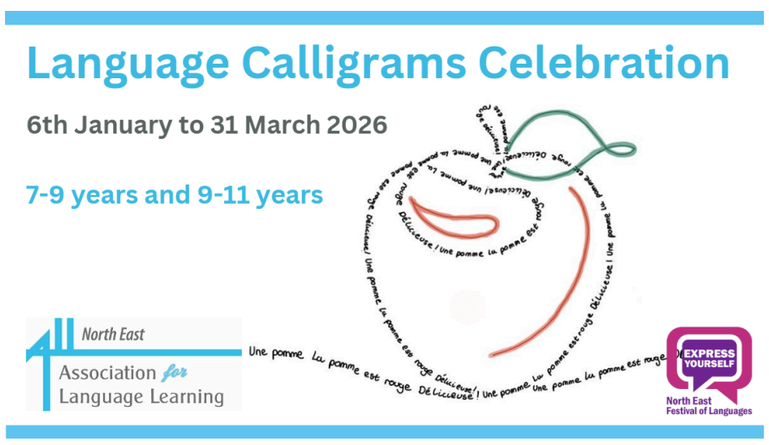
North East schools and groups (ages 7-18) are invited to sign, sign, play, perform and film different language versions of the song: 'Love is the only river'. Compilation video of performances will be shared.



North East schools, groups, international schools (ages 5-18) Children and young people will create colourful origami butterflies with messages of friendship as part of our public art exhibition.



North East schools (ages 7-18) Children and young people share poems and drawings in their home language or write an original piece in a language they learn. Compilation in a digital anthology.



NE schools (7-9 and 9-11 year olds): Create calligrams in any language (other than English) based on words children already know. School certificates for all and an ebook with selected entries will be shared.



NE schools, youth and community groups: Share recipes in languages (other than English) and why these are important to different cultures. Digital recipe book will include selected entries.

North East Festival Competitions featuring Spanish, French and German

Children and young people can take part in these exciting competitions from January, with classroom resources to explore different aspects of culture in these countries and a chance to win prizes.



For NE schools (KS2-3): Pupils design a Spanish Omelette and describe it in Spanish. Resource pack provided. Two school winners attend an awards ceremony on 9th March at Northumbria University.



For NE schools (KS2-3): Join in this competition to design a unique crêpe and describe it in French. Resource pack provided. Two schools will win an in-person workshop with La Petite Crêperie.



For NE and UK schools (KS2-4): Pupils will celebrate Germany's most colourful and joyful festival and design their own Karneval mask. With teaching and learning resources. NE/UK Key Stage winners.

Special events for teachers



Webinar for UK secondary and college teachers: Learn about accreditation and access to free resources and trips from the European Parliament Liaison Office plus links to EU and UK schools.



For North East teachers at any level: Join expert Dr Jennifer Eddy, for this CPD session supporting teachers to understand and design tasks across subject areas to support language learning.



For teachers and future teachers of Spanish in the North East at all levels. A lively day of presentations and practical ideas for teachers in the Spanish language class, with a special Spanish lunch.

Classroom activities with teaching resources (ages 3-16): Available 6 January to 31 March

Enjoy a wonderful variety of activities in the classroom which can be delivered at any time during the Festival



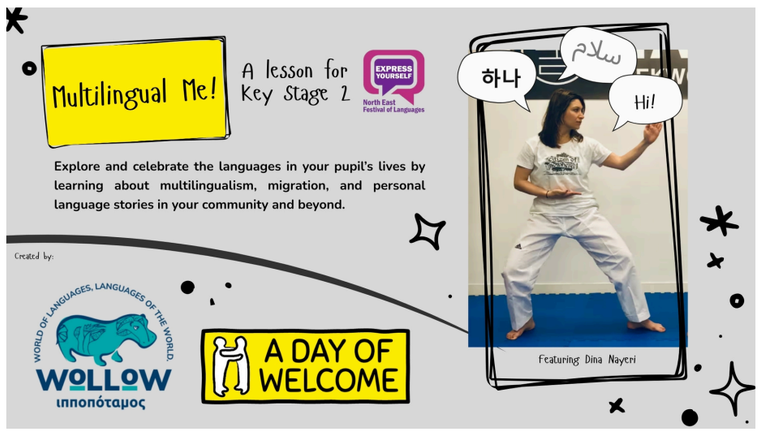
For 7-18 year-olds in North East schools, community schools and groups: Four fun, interactive pre-recorded workshops exploring and celebrating Indian and Chinese arts, language and culture (drumming, dance, puppetry and origami).



For KS2-5 pupils in North East schools: A series of 2-5 minute videos with North East young professionals (with pupil booklets) to inspire pupils to progress with languages and understand the opportunities available when you speak more than one language.



For KS2 7-11 years in North East and UK schools: Help polar bear, Ursa Lingua, escape the castle using the power of languages and the magic of teamwork! An exciting language adventure with interactive resources from Lightning Languages.



For UK primary schools (KS2): Lesson and materials to help pupils explore languages, celebrate linguistic diversity and learn about multilingualism and migration in their classroom and community context.



For NE primary schools (ages 7-11): Three fun pre-recorded workshops with teaching resources celebrating Nigerian and Yorùbá language, culture and expression with songs and stories.



For NE early years, primary (ages 3-11): Three interactive puppet shows tailored to different ages. Children learn French words while enjoying a story. With teacher guide and additional resources.



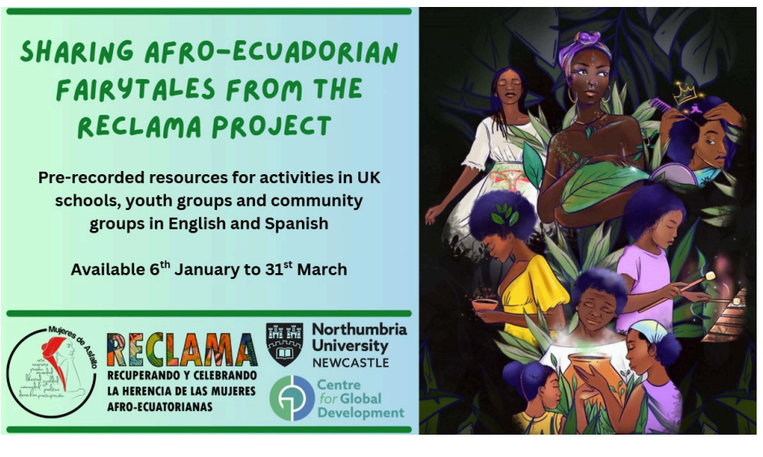
NE and UK schools (ages 5-15): Access three short films, revealing different cultures, communities and languages. Explore underlying themes that unite us through the language of food. With teaching guide.



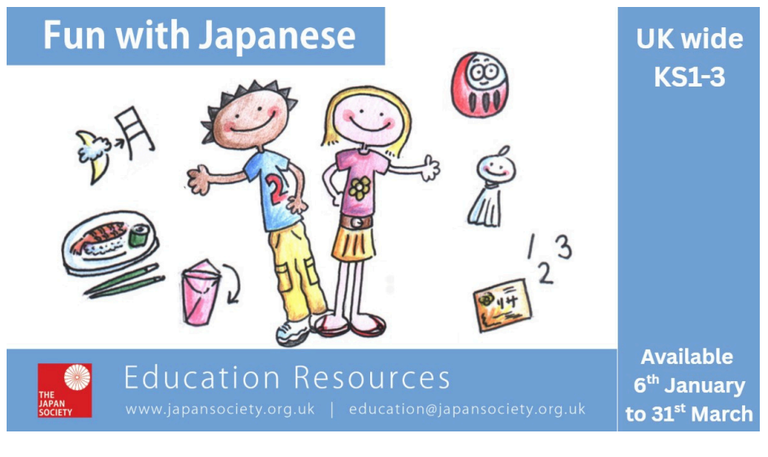
For NE and UK schools (Y5-6) and KS2-3 transition: Enthuse pupils with six creative lessons around the men's 2026 World Cup. Includes lesson plans, pre-recorded videos and a powerpoint presentation.



For UK schools and groups (5-16 years): Teaching resources and activities to run in a classroom, youth group or community. Introducing 4 indigenous African languages: Yoruba, Swahili, Tamazight, Xhosa



For UK schools, youth and community groups: Resources in English and Spanish bringing Afro-Ecuadorian fairy tales to life, learning about the importance of traditions, knowledge and culture.



For children UK-wide (KS1-3): A simple and fun introduction to Japanese for pupils and community groups or families with children aged 5-11. A series of short videos online plus a calligraphy workshop.



For UK schools and groups (KS2-4): Share short multilingual digital stories created by children and young people aged 7–16 in a range of languages, with English subtitles. Teacher guide provided.



UK schools (KS1-2): Join puppets Felix and Franzi in singing songs, completing challenges and playing games in German. With teaching resources and lessons. No knowledge of German needed.



For KS4-5 UK schools: Access Spanish films for classroom screenings. English subtitles and teaching guides provided to enhance pupils' Spanish learning through this engaging activity.

Languages and careers events

Online events are open to North East and UK schools. In person events are open to North East schools.



NE & UK schools Y8-Y9: Join David Binns for an inspirational careers talk for students, stressing the importance of a second language skill in any chosen career and encouraging GCSE take-up.



NE & UK secondary schools/6th forms: Inspire pupils to progress with Spanish and find out about the benefits of learning languages and the future opportunities learning Spanish brings. (Recording)



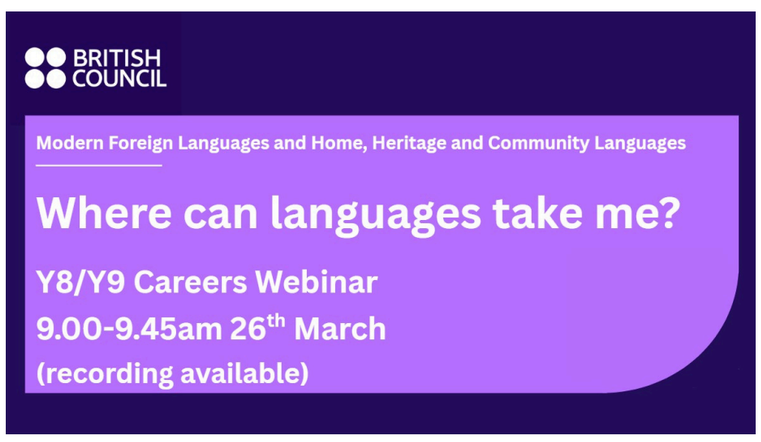
NE Y10 Spanish learners: Teams of five pupils work with Durham University students on a Bishop Auckland tourism marketing challenge and deliver a pitch in Spanish to a judging panel.



NE and UK schools (KS3 Y8-Y9): Motivational session with professional linguists. Sharing career insights and running live language challenges in French, German and Spanish.



NE & UK schools (KS2-5): Join Futbol Lingo's motivational webinar, using football to inspire a generation of future linguists and open perspectives on the range of careers in football.



NE & UK schools Year 8-9: Inspire pupils to choose languages at GCSE with professionals sharing their language learning journeys, skills and how they use languages in their work. (Recording available)



NE schools (KS3-5): Inspiring workshops to encourage pupils to progress with languages. Football themed motivational talk, practical and fun classroom language and footballing activities.



North East KS2-KS5 pupils (7-18): 30-45 min virtual or 2-hour in person language and culture taster sessions (Careers option). Choose your language for interactive sessions with staff and students

Languages and careers resources

Access classroom resources to support pupils exploration of languages and careers



For KS2-5 pupils in North East schools: A series of 2-5 minute videos with North East young professionals (with pupil booklets) to inspire pupils to progress with languages and understand the opportunities available when you speak more than one language.



North East and UK: Discover inspiring stories of people who share a connection to the North East. Explore how learning and speaking other languages shaped their education and career paths and enriched their lives.



Discover events, activities and resources offered as part of the Festival and available anytime to support pupils in discovering the world of opportunities that open up to young people when they speak other languages and understand other cultures.

Live languages and cultures events - in person and online

Online events are open to North East and UK schools. In person events are open to North East schools.



NE schools KS3-5: Join in this exciting workshop and high energy concert with Munich Supercrew, the energetic German band making learning German a blast! With teaching resources and CPD.



For families with children (5-12, all welcome): Join in multilingual story time, share stories, play games and enjoy arts and craft activities to celebrate International Mother Language Day.



For families with children (5-12, all welcome): Join in multilingual storytime, share stories, play games and enjoy arts and craft activities to celebrate International Mother Language Day.



For two North East Primary Schools (30 children each): Six sessions delivered in school over six weeks (Jan-March) with Arabic teachers, helping children to learn Arabic through songs and games.

For North East KS5 language learners: Half-day programmes for two pupils per visit, who will meet language students and do task-based activities in languages they study or take at degree level.

For North East schools KS2-5: South Asian and Chinese arts and culture workshops delivered in school by GemArts artists. Options include festivals, dance, visual arts, traditional arts and crafts.



For NE KS2-3 pupils: Engaging events bringing fairy tales to life and learning about the importance of traditions and knowledge in different cultures. Involves stories in English and Spanish



For NE KS2-KS5 pupils (7-18): 30-45 min online or 2-hour in-person sessions (with an option for a Careers with Languages session) at Newcastle University Language Resource Centre.



For North East primary schools: Children will enjoy a library tour, games, quizzes and stories using our many books and celebrate diverse cultures and languages around the world.



NE primary schools (Y4-6): Explore literature and culture, think about food in stories, consider how the quest for food can be a journey of self-discovery and reflect on what food might mean in the world.



For UK schools (ages 3-7): Join four fun-filled online French sessions with Lingua Cub's playful activities, songs and games. Activity pack provided. Set of recordings available (end March)



For NE schools (Y3-7 and Y6-9): Book hands-on workshops exploring galleries through a linguistic lens and connecting across cultures or use teacher-led resourced activities throughout March.



NE primary schools (Y4-6): Explore literature and culture, think about food in stories, consider how the quest for food can be a journey of self-discovery and reflect on what food might mean in the world.



For UK schools KS1-2: Join Wuschel the friendly alien for fun-filled live sessions, with catchy songs, challenges and games, linked to 'Wuschel auf der Erde', illustrated by Axel Scheffler.



For North East schools (5-18 yrs): Join in a Mandarin session and cultural workshops: Tai Chi, Kungfu, calligraphy, printmaking, Chinese Tea Ceremony, lacquer fan, lantern making, paper cutting.

Live languages and cultures events - in person and online

Online events are open to North East and UK schools. In person events are open to North East schools.



For 14-18 year olds (UK wide): Share the experiences of Afghan girls, their fight for education and what pupils in the UK can do to support them. Education pack provided.



For North East Schools (Y5-6): Learn about Japanese culture and language in these fun, 2-hour interactive workshops with Japanese students and staff from Durham University and Teikyo University.



For UK schools KS4-5 French learners: Join Michaël for a stimulating, interactive bilingual poetry session in French and English. Teaching resources provided and recording available.



For NE primary/middle schools (Y3-5): Join in the Mini Olympics! Children compete as 6 country teams, with sports and tasks linked to the history, culture and language of the country.



For North East schools (KS2-3): Pupils can join in a two-hour interactive session with The Japan Society. They will learn some Japanese language and take part in Japanese cultural activities.



For NE schools (KS3-4): Exploring how perceptions of the body have changed since the 19th century, representations in French literature and art, plus topics of war and work, health and men and women.



For UK schools KS2: Join Ursa Lingua the language bear for a fun-filled online French lesson with games, challenges and feast-themed activities. With activity pack. Recording available.



For NE schools Y12 French, German, Spanish: Join in oral practice, listening comprehension, introductory interpreting and meet University language students sharing experiences of their year abroad.



For UK schools KS2: Join Ursa Lingua the language bear for a fun-filled online Spanish lesson with games, challenges and feast-themed activities. With activity pack. Recording available.



For NE schools (Y10-11): An interactive workshop for pupils using languages they speak (to whatever level) to gain confidence in creative expression, with translation, creative writing and language-learning.



For NE primary schools (KS2): Inspiring interactive sessions celebrating Nigerian and Yorùbá language and culture through dance, song, drumming and storytelling with Victoria Eniola.



NE schools (Years 5-6) Children will learn about the Arab world, culture and traditions, practice some Arabic language and try Arabic calligraphy in these fun, in-person interactive workshops.



For NE schools (KS4-5): Screening of three Chinese documentaries, offering insights into Chinese society, education and social inequality and documentary filmmaking. With Q&A.



For NE schools and colleges: Activities to celebrate richness of Bangladeshi culture, heritage, traditions and language and the Bangladeshi community. At Sunderland Bangladesh International Centre.

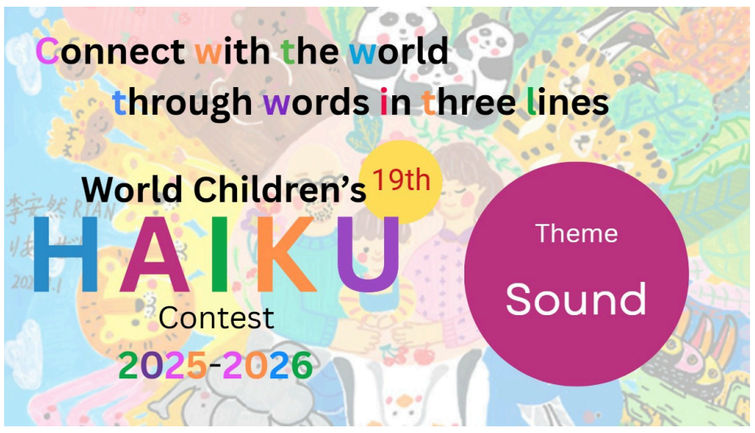


NE schools (KS2): Join members of Newcastle's Bangladeshi community to experience a carousel of cultural activities celebrating Bengali culture, language and heritage.

Live languages and cultures events -continued



NE schools (KS3-5): Join Michaël Vidon and his team of Spoken Word Artists to experience a day of multilingual poetry. Pupils will create and perform group poems in multiple languages.



For under 15 year-olds: Compose your own haiku with accompanying artwork by 28th February for a chance to win prizes. Both individual and school entries are welcomed.



UK schools register to access creative translation teaching resources in French, German, Italian, Mandarin, Russian and Spanish. Competition tasks released 2 Feb, deadline 27 Mar.

UK competitions and celebrations

Enthuse children and young people about languages



UK schools can take part in a week long celebration of German language and culture. Age-appropriate resources, events and activities available to registered primary and secondary schools.



Open to UK schools with three age categories (7-11, 12-15, 16-18). Schools register Feb/March and submit videos of original songs in French by May, with Award Ceremony in London in June.



UK 6th forms: French debating competition around current topics, building confidence and critical thinking. Regional heats to February and Final in London on 24th March with prizes.



For UK primary and secondary learners of Japanese. The 2026 theme is 'My favourite sandwiches'. Speech and video categories. Finals on 20th June in London. Guidance and downloads.



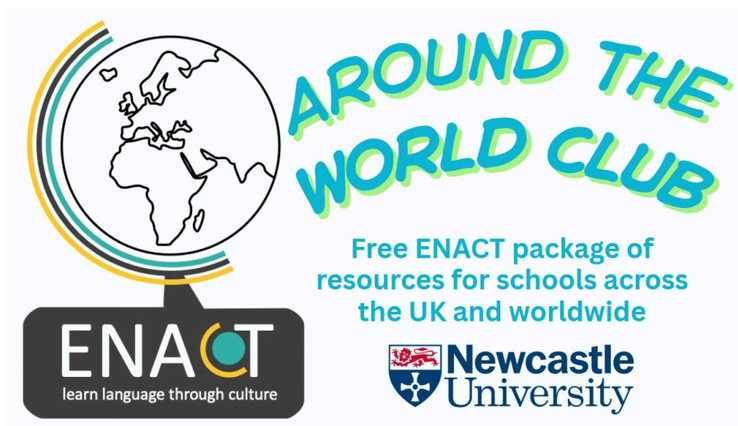
UK schools: Practice and celebrate a language your students learn or use in their community and take part in the virtual festival of speaking in by sharing performances online.



UK schools: Share your children's multilingual texts, verses and nursery rhymes and encourage family involvement and intergenerational learning. Ongoing deadlines to 2027. Entries and resources are shared.

Language and cultural resources and support available anytime

Find a wide range of resources freely available to explore languages and cultures



UK and worldwide schools can set up their own Clubs with free resources, Children and young people can learn about different languages and cultures, while doing hands-on activities.



Explore a selection of British Council's Education Packs with specially designed lessons and resources for schools linked to different countries and cultures across the world.



Access a range of language resources designed to help introduce and support language learning and teaching, as well as support for international links and the International School Award.

Association for Language Learning

Discover how ALL represents and supports NE and UK language teachers and aids professional development and the development of policy.



National programme supporting language education in England: LEO professional learning platform, language networks and CPD webinars.



Classroom resources and publications in multiple languages available to support teachers from this Council of Europe supported website.

ABOUT OUR FESTIVAL

Find out more about the development and impact of the Festival and the partnership supporting it



Since 2021, our Festival has been igniting a love for languages and cultures by offering exciting, free opportunities for children and young people in schools, community schools and groups.

Enjoying fresh, creative ways to engage with diverse cultures helps inspire the next generation to embrace multilingualism and discover the world, right here in the North East!

At the heart of the Festival is a commitment to expanding young people's horizons. We aim to spark curiosity, build skills and confidence and foster intercultural awareness.

We want to help prepare children and young people for an increasingly interconnected world and support their future education and career choices and opportunities.

The Festival started during the pandemic, as a means to provide language opportunities for learners giving children and young people stimulating activities to enthuse them and encourage their language learning journey.

The Festival has grown year on year. From 2021 to 2025, over 183,000 children and young people (ages 3 to 18) have enjoyed immersing themselves in diverse languages and cultures through our Festival activities.

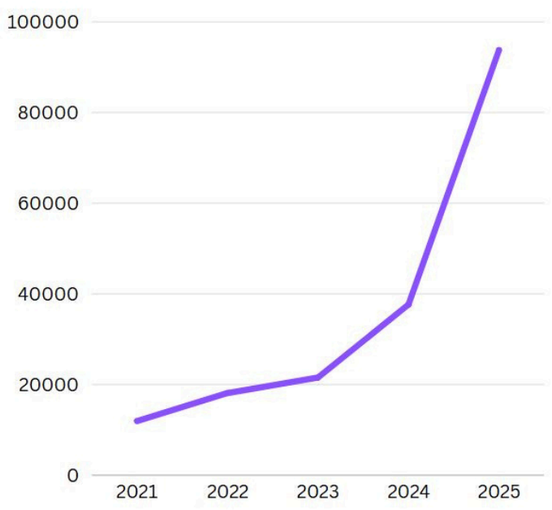
All Festival programmes have been open to North East schools and the Festival has offered activities for both UK and international schools.7

Click here to read the 2025 Festival Evaluation Summary Report to read more about the Festival's reach and impact and see some key outcomes and learning from the evaluation below.

Festival evolution 2021-2025

Number of children and young people (aged 3-18) taking part

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North East
Festival of Languages



Festival 2025 - key achievements

Record-breaking participation

93,798 children and young people took part (target 15,000), 428 schools (target 150) and over 1,200 teachers were engaged (target 300). In 2025, the festival engaged more children and young people than all four previous annual festivals combined

Creative, inclusive, flexible programme

A diverse 'pick and mix' programme (in-person, online and pre-recorded) for pupils from Early Years to Key Stage 5 including: world languages and cultures events and resources; multilingual creative projects; competitions; careers-related activities

High quality delivery

Feedback from teachers demonstrated the high quality of the programme: people delivering activities (71% excellent, 26% good), content (68% excellent, 29% good), materials (67% excellent, 29% good) and access (67% excellent, 30% good)

Creative products and Festival legacy

Tangible outputs from creative multilingual projects: three digital anthologies of children's writing, Festival song video of performances and the Friendship Trees public installation of children's artwork. plus five Festival case study films

Festival 2025 - core strengths

Strategic Partnerships

Festival success was underpinned by long-standing and new collaborations with regional, national and international partners, including local authorities, universities, cultural and community organisations and language specialists

Efficient delivery model

The long lead in time (six months), clear timeline, advance bookings from November and centralised coordination enabled streamlined organisation and delivery of the Festival and effective monitoring across Festival activities, with delivery partners and schools

Outstanding value for money

Total cost: £124,169. With 66% in-kind contributions, core funding (£38,400 - North East Combined Authority) and event funding (£3,355 -QFI), the Festival leveraged substantial resources, enabling broad access and rich content

Professional PR and outreach

43 media features reached 6.3 million people; 45 web articles and 1,000 social media posts drove awareness; the website had 47,945 page views and 16,410 new users; five Festival filmed case studies; Communications with schools via networks were impactful

Festival 2025 - Impact on children and young people

By empowering children and young people with language skills, intercultural competence and access to opportunities, the Festival helps break down barriers, unlock potential and create pathways to brighter futures.

Promoting literacy and oracy

Widening access to diverse linguistic resources and immersive experiences helped to empower pupils to develop strong literacy and oracy skills, essential for academic success and lifelong learning

Promoting language learning

Having fun with languages and enabling pupils to enjoy learning, see the opportunities available and develop their interest in continuing their language learning journeys

Providing accessible learning opportunities

Offering different age groups many ways to engage (in-person, online, live, pre-recorded, through projects and competitions) widened accessibility to pupils in schools and community schools

Expanding Cultural Capital

Celebrating linguistic and cultural diversity exposed pupils to new ideas, perspectives and traditions, broadening cultural horizons, developing cross-cultural competencies and their sense of belonging

Inspiration and Empowerment

Showcasing role models, language enthusiasts and success stories, helped inspire and empower children and young people to explore their linguistic potential, pursue their passion for languages and embrace multiculturalism as a source of strength and enrichment

Promoting multilingualism

Celebrating linguistic diversity empowered children and young people from diverse backgrounds to have pride in their identity, embrace their home languages and be inspired to learn more

Widening perspectives on career pathways

Offering a range of languages and careers webinars, in-person events and resources helped widen perspectives about the wide range of career opportunities available to young people who develop language and intercultural skills

Festival partners

The Festival relies on contributions from around local, regional, UK and international partners providing expertise, time and resources free of charge to benefit children and young people. We are grateful to all those who have helped arrange or are delivering events and activities, as well as sharing online resources as part of this festival. The Festival is hosted and coordinated annually by International Newcastle and supported by a dedicated Steering Group of teachers and partners.