

## SCILT update

### 1. Professional Learning (PL)

Professional learning remains one of our core priorities.

SCILT continues to be **the largest provider of subject-specific PL for language educators in Scotland**. Everything we offer is:

- **Informed by the latest research and current national and international thinking,**
- **Grounded in innovative and effective practice from classrooms across Scotland and beyond,**
- **Free of charge to all state schools, and**
- **Developed directly in response to feedback from the profession.**

Our aim is to ensure that teachers feel supported, connected, and confident. We know high-quality PL doesn't just improve classroom practice – it helps build professional community. And that sense of belonging and shared purpose is vital, especially in the current climate for language education.

### Upcoming PL Campaign

After the Christmas holidays, we'll launch a national campaign to promote our 2025–26 professional learning offer.

**please help us disseminate the campaign widely when it launches.**

Your support genuinely makes a difference to uptake and awareness.

### Timing of the PL Menu

We also want to gather your views on **the timing** of the PL menu release.

- Previously, we did a *soft launch in June* followed by the official launch in August.
- This year, we trialled **no soft launch**, which gave us more development time over the summer.
- However, we are aware that **schools tend to do PRDs and forward planning in May/June**, and without a soft launch, colleagues may not have enough information to plan their PL needs effectively.

Internally, it's challenging for our team to produce a new menu in May/June while still delivering current-year workshops and end-of-term commitments.

But we want to know: **does the current timing work for schools?**

Please share your perspectives, either today or afterwards — it will directly influence what we do for next year.

## **2. Sustainable Designs for Living and Learning (SDLL)**

**Sustainable Designs for Living and Learning** is SCILT's major research project.

This project explores **multilingualism through learning for sustainability**, using **arts-based methods** as a way to capture learners' voices, deepen their engagement and co-create multilingual spaces in schools that connect with nature and the community.

### **SDLL Survey Now Live**

We're delighted to share that the **SDLL national survey has now gone live**.

The survey is for teachers, and we **really need as many responses as possible** to strengthen the data informing this phase of the project.

You can access the survey – and follow updates on the work – on our new SDLL project **blog**. [Sustainable Designs for Living and Learning](#)

Please take a moment to complete it, and encourage colleagues in your authorities to do the same.

The richer the data, the stronger the insights we can share back with the system.

### **Opportunity for Schools – Next Year**

We will also be recruiting **10 additional schools** to join the next cycle of the SDLL project.

There is a **“honeypot” of funding** to support their participation.

If you know schools who are committed to sustainability, creativity, and multilingualism – please point them towards the opportunity encourage them to get in touch.

### **Arabic**

Our Discovering Arabic programme is due to launch after Christmas. We currently have more than 1000 children and young people learning with us. Aimed at total beginners, it's a great way to introduce the world's 5<sup>th</sup> most spoken language into your curriculum and is an innovative means of providing a high-quality L3 experience without overburdening the classroom teacher.

### **SLLP**

We are proposing changes to Scotland's Languages Leadership Programme this year. Instead of launching during LWS as normal we are going to make the programme biennial and instead develop a programme for the alums group of teachers who successfully completed in the past. This will give support to the alums to take their learning deeper, share it widely and focus on the impact that it has in the classroom. 2026/27 will therefore be an alums year with the next SLLP launching in 2027/28

To summarise the key asks for LANGS:

1. **Please help promote the Professional Learning campaign** after the holidays.
2. **Share your views** on the timing of the PL menu release.
3. **Complete and disseminate the SDLL survey** and point schools towards the opportunity to join next year's project.
4. Spread the word about the **Discovering Arabic** programme.
5. Note the changes to **SLLP** and the upcoming alumni year.

Thank you again for your continued partnership and your ongoing advocacy for languages.

We deeply appreciate the support of this network, and we look forward to working closely with you over the coming year.