

Cultural Organisations and Local Authorities Group (COALA)

Friday 23rd January 2015, University of Strathclyde

Minute of Meeting taken by Fiona Moffatt, Stirling & Clackmannanshire

1. Apologies and Welcome

See attached list

2. Minute of previous meeting

Thank you to Sarah Connolly for taking previous Minute.

Amendments:

Page 2 Erasmus+ deadline - March 4th, Key Action 1

March 31st, Key Action 2

Page 6 Update from Fiona Pate

Approved by G Campbell-Thow, seconded by L Börgmann

3. Matters Arising

Addendum to LFEE: thank you to LFEE for simplification of Erasmus+ application information

SQA Exams & May Bank Holiday: J Mauchline contacted SQA on 7th November 2014 re concern raised at previous COALA meeting of scheduling of Modern Languages exams on a Bank Holiday. Advice received was that 2015 diet was already finalised and published therefore not possible to change. JM to email again re 2016 dates, it was noted that M Larkin had previously received information from SQA regarding exam scheduling and the annual rotation of subjects across different weeks.

4. Guidance on L3: Fiona Pate

Presentation given by Fiona Pate

Key message of P7-S1 transition still focus area with regards to continuity and progression of skills.

Opportunities for learners to undertake an L3 should be part of the S1-S3 BGE provision but need not be the L3 undertaken at primary school.

Publication of Education Scotland L3 Guidance materials due February. Materials will address:

- *suggested approaches for inclusion of L3*
- *depth (progressive language experience beyond single words and using all 4 skills)*
- *planning for L3 (primary and secondary)*

F Pate outlined planning options for L3, notably for the inclusion of L3 at secondary. This included the avoidance of carousel approaches and the possibilities of L3 being an elective, insert or masterclass at any stage over the BGE or L3 being part of a well-planned IDL project at any stage over the BGE.

F Pate highlighted a question arising from 1+2 pilot primary schools - how do you find space for L3?

Recommendation given:

- *ensuring that L2 is priority task then forward plan for introduction of L3.*

In response to questions from the floor, F Pate gave further advice that a 50/50 split approach to L2 and L3 in S1-S3 should be avoided as this takes away depth from L2. In addition, there is scope for Cultural Organisations to produce support materials for secondary.

5. Supporting the 1+2 Agenda

Scotland Russia Forum: www.findoutaboutrussia.co.uk

New website in place to support the possibility of Russian being a choice for L3 by giving a taster of topics which would be relevant to learners aged 9-12. Jenny would be happy to take advice on the choice of topics, content and activities available via the website. Teacher visits to Russia are also a possibility encouraged by the Minister of Russian Culture.

LFEE: Richard Tallaron

Guidelines can be sent to each authority re completing Erasmus+ application for Key Action 1. LFEE can also visit authority to give guidance in person. Reminder that secondary teachers can take advantage of the Immersion Course with GTCS approval. Key Action 1 deadline - 4th March, 11am.

LFEE has been used by several local authorities to deliver PLL training.

Ebooks - First Level Ebooks will be available imminently via Education Scotland website; Mandarin Ebooks for First and Second Levels available from SCILT website.

IFE: Thomas Chaurin

Monthly workshop for Secondary from 29th January 4.30-6pm. Potential to be filmed for wider access on GLOW. Primary workshops – focus will be on cultural resources (literature for young learners etc). Pilot immersion courses starting soon. Online French courses starting in Spring.

Update given on Rencontres Théâtrales for S1-S6, application forms on website.

Immersion Days for Higher French – contact Thomas

Strategic links between local authorities and academies – if your link is dormant, contact Thomas.

Monthly newsletter and new twitter feed being launched soon.

EUNIC – cultural organisations will be working together to promote learning and teaching of languages.

British Council: Iona Peddie and Gary Shiells

Applications for Language Assistants launched via schoolsonline, provisional applications must be made by 25th March, confirmation by the end of May.

Erasmus+ key dates: 4th March, Key Action 1

31st March, Key Action 2

Notification of Erasmus+ application result will be given by the end of May.

Key Action 1 guidance available via webinars. Consortium application between local authority and at least two schools for Key Action 1 is permitted to remove burden from schools. Associated Education professionals can still benefit from mobility funding but only with reference to a school.

School Education Gateway (runs parallel with Etwinning) is the updated version of Comenius Grundvig database.

Etwinning's 10th anniversary this year. Etwinning can be used to find partner schools in Scotland and the rest of the UK and can be used to work on projects dealing with UK education issues.

Goethe Institut: Lilo Börgmann

Update on CLPL courses for primary and secondary teachers to support learning and teaching of German – info and booking via website.

German Language Adventure – bookings for schools to made through Lilo.

GET scheme – authorities have been asked to provisionally indicate interest via SCILT.

Asesoria Edimburgo: Xabier San Isidro

Priorities – teacher training, immersion language days with Higher pupils (book via info on SCILT newsletter), CLIL pilot projects, building relations with universities, increasing Spanish language assistants (less than 30 in Scotland).

Online Spanish courses start in April, info to follow.

CLIL – makes room for languages, free training and free materials on offer

SCILT Update: Fhiona Fisher

New staff – addition to the Primary Team

Reminder of Professional Learning menu on website – all PL sessions are free of charge

Update given on Glasgow, Edinburgh and Aberdeen Business Breakfasts allowing young people to engage with industry. Language packs to support this are available.

Saturday morning outreach events with focus on 1+2 in secondary – dates to follow.

CISS:

- over 100 schools working with Scottish Opera
- 2 Mandarin eBooks will be available shortly via SCILT website
- Head Teachers' Conference in April
- Teacher immersion 12-27th July, information to follow
- Pupil immersion 12-27th July for Hub schools

6. (Comfort Break)

7. Update from Scottish Government: Toria Fraser

Language Assistants Programme – numbers increased by 45%. All authorities should consider the use of MLAs, could be shared among schools in clusters

Funding – no statement released at present, will be announced when budgetary considerations are complete. T Fraser will inform local authorities as soon as this happens.

Scottish Social Attitudes Survey – 3 key questions:

Q1 Are you able to hold a conversation in another language?

Q2 What is your attitude to children learning other languages between the ages of 5-15?

Q3 Which languages should they be?

Survey will be repeated in 2016 and 2020.

Strategic Implementation Group and ADES – meeting 13th March, invitations to follow. Agenda will be around employer engagement, high level messages, ITE students and their qualifications on entry to ITE courses.

Reminder of Education Scotland Awards: Making Languages Come Alive - deadline 16th Feb

8. SQA Update: Janette Kelso

Nat 4 - three short video clips now available aimed at Parents/Carers

Nat 5 - Understanding Standards events planned. Materials for Unit Assessments available on SQA secure.

Higher – Higher Exemplar Question Papers (HEQPs) available for languages with exception of German and Urdu because of copyright issues. Guidance on use of past paper questions with relevance to new Higher is available. Common question documents updated, updates will come through SCILT ebuletin.

AH – events planned for February, book online

Language for Life and Work unit assessment support packs available on SQA secure.

9. Effective Practice in the Senior Phase: Shona Hugh

Update on current national picture of uptake post BGE – drop of 37% in French

Education Scotland website – videos of conversation day in June 2014 with colleagues sharing good practice in Senior Phase. Questions asked during conversation day around leadership and ethos, courses, assessment, experiences outwith the classroom and pupil voice.

Planned support for 2015:

L3 guidance

First Level Es and Os

GLOW meets with skills focus (25th Feb, Listening and Talking; 29th Apr, Reading and Writing)

SCILT/Education Scotland Saturday morning Learning Event with focus on Senior Phase (Spring 2015)

Development Officer Conference 14th May

AH and N2 support materials on GLOW

TTT July 2015

Review of KAL and Progress & Achievement documents

Development of Modern Languages Professional Learning Community – BabelOn

10. AOB

Update from Mark Pentleton (Radio Lingua resources, Coffee Break Spanish and Italian, free High 5 French podcasts)

All presentations from today will be available on SCILT website

Next COALA meeting - June 5th venue TBC

East Lothian Council – MLA not allowed to work until PVG certificate is issued which means they not paid until they are working. Could the consistency of this decision be looked into? Is there some way of developing an International Disclosure format?