

## UCML Executive Committee

Friday 2 November 2018      12.30 – 16.00

Monnet Room, Europe House

32 Smith Square, London SW1P 3EU



## Schools Liaison report

**This is the first report that does not only focus on aspects of the Association for Language Learning but also on Initial Teacher Training and other school related initiatives.**

### **Association for Language Learning (ALL) ([www.all-languages.co.uk](http://www.all-languages.co.uk))**

Over the past 6 months the association has gone through organisational change and its day-to-day operational activities are now housed with the event managing company KC Jones in Derby. Clodagh Cooney is the newly appointed ALL Development Manager; Tammy Pratt has been appointed to the newly created ALL Membership Manager role. Following two successful years of Prof Anna Lise Gordon as president, Jane Harvey took up the presidency from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 for two years.

The annual flagship event, Language World 2019, will take place in Loughborough. The call for papers is open until 16<sup>th</sup> November 2018. For more details see: <https://www.kc-jones.co.uk/lw2019>

### **Initial teacher education – MFL Scholarships**

ALL has been involved in a number of activities led by the DfE and the British Council to raise the profile of language teaching as a profession. In 2017/18 100 ITE students were successful in applying for the British Council Scholarships. In 2018/19, 130 MFL trainees have successfully been awarded this scholarship. Scholarship students receive a £28k scholarship. Those who have not been successful but meet the DfE criteria are eligible for bursaries of up to £26k. The contract between DfE and British Council regarding Scholarships has been extended for a further two years.

### **Language and Education policy initiatives**

The three initiatives referred to in previous reports continue to be offered by providers across the sector: **Teacher Subject Specialism Training – Languages (TSST), Return to Teaching, BA/MA Languages plus QTS opt-in**. With regards to the latter, a survey amongst UCML members could give us a clearer insight into how these QTS opt-in programmes have been implemented in member institutions.

### **MFL Pedagogy Review, MFL hubs and MFL National Centre of Excellence**

The implementation of the MFL Pedagogy Review in England (<https://www.tscouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/MFL-Pedagogy-Review-Report-2.pdf>) is driven by a new National Centre of Excellence for Modern Foreign Languages. This centre will be closely working with the nine regional MFL hubs, based in secondary schools across the country. A more detailed update on this will follow at the next meeting.

### **GCSE/A-level languages**

**GCSE:** Entries in 2018 were up 0.4%, which should be looked at in the context of the overall population declining 2.7%. In 2018, there were just under 300,000 entries for languages and these students performed to a very similar level to 2017.

**A-level:** Entries for French, German and Spanish fell collectively by 7.9% in 2018. Results at A\* rose for German and Spanish, but fell for all three subjects at A\*-A. It is important to note that year on year standards have been maintained and that the fall in results is due to changing entry patterns impacting the performance of the overall cohort. Other foreign languages showed an overall 3.1% increase. Of these languages, Chinese languages had the most entries, 3,334, rising 8.6% year on year. It is also worth noting that in England entries to AS levels continue to decline following decoupling them from A levels.

### **Language Trends Survey 2018:**

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/research/language-trends-2018>

René Koglbauer, Oct. 2018