

“***The teaching of languages as subjects provides opportunities for all learners to extend their linguistic repertoires and develop skills that are valuable for life, work, and citizenship.***”

When children learn languages at school, it helps them build valuable skills for life. They develop confidence in communication, learn to understand others, and gain skills that will benefit them in future jobs and everyday situations. Learning languages also helps children become more open-minded and better prepared to take part in a diverse world.

“***English is the main language of instruction, assessment, and participation in the education system in England, and proficiency in English is essential for accessing learning and wider opportunities.***”

In schools in England, English is the main language used for teaching, learning, and assessments. This means it is important for children to develop strong English skills so they can understand lessons, take part in school activities, and make the most of opportunities available to them. All children should be supported in building their confidence in English so they can succeed in school and beyond.

“***Schools support the development of language awareness in all learners, and have a responsibility to ensure that all learners, whatever their linguistic background, benefit from opportunities to explore and expand their understanding of the world through languages.***”

Schools help all children become more aware of languages and how they work. Every child, whatever languages they speak at home, should have the chance to learn about and enjoy different languages. This helps children understand the world around them, appreciate other cultures, and build skills that will support them in school and in life.



The new Language Policy for Coventry Schools

Mission Statement Multilingualism

Mission Statement

Language development is an important educational goal for all learners in Coventry schools. The languages that learners bring, develop, and encounter through education are central to their learning, identity, and participation in society. This policy affirms that all languages have value within the school community and that schools have a role in recognising, developing, and building on this linguistic diversity, for the benefit of every learner in Coventry schools, whatever their linguistic starting point.

Coventry have a new language policy framework. This policy framework was created to help schools and teachers support and understand language learning.

- It recognises the importance of developing English fully to access learning and career pathways
- It recognises the importance of continuing home language development so the benefits of being multilingual, their identity and their feeling of belonging
- It recognises the benefits of all children learning another language in school, whether that is Spanish, French, Mandarin, or taking a GCSE in their home language e.g. Persian, Arabic or Polish
- It recognises that by becoming more language-aware that all learners will explore and expand their understanding of the world.

You speak or understand another language at home: Why is this important?

1. Your home language is always the base on which other languages are built.

The stronger a home language, the more successful your child will be in learning English and other languages

2. It can take between 3-9 years to become fully proficient in the academic language needed to be successful at school

Supporting your child with their learning at home in your home language helps them to make links in their languages



Top Tips for Parents when talking to school

- Talk to your child's teacher about their home language development
- Explain about any schooling they have had in other countries prior to arriving in UK
- Find out about the UK education system
- Connect with your child's school regularly and find out how you can support their learning at home



Top Tips for Parents at home

- Make sure your child knows how important their language is
- Tell stories, play games regularly as this is a great way to develop language
- Talk to them about their learning in school in their home language
- Join a Community Language School with your children and find ways for your children to spend time with others who speak your language.

Coventry has lots of languages in its schools and in their communities. The new Language Policy Framework has been designed to guide schools to provide all pupils, both monolingual

“ **Home and community languages are central to learners' identity, wellbeing, and sense of belonging. Recognising and building on these languages within school supports both academic development and positive learner identity.** ”

Your child's home language is a really important part of who they are. It helps them feel confident, proud, and connected to their family and culture. When children are encouraged to use all the languages they speak, it supports their learning and helps them feel a strong sense of belonging in school. We value these languages and build on them in the classroom so that every child can grow, succeed, and feel included in their school.