

10 tips for schools introducing Cambridge Primary and Lower Secondary Modern Foreign Language



CAMBRIDGE

Introducing a modern foreign language into your curricula will benefit your school, teachers and learners in a range of ways, from improving cognitive abilities to developing cultural understanding. Our top 10 tips will put you on track for success.



1. Reflect on the importance of language in your mission

Clearly stating your school's goals helps you evaluate the impact of your current practices and see where a language can support with key aims, such as cultural understanding.



2. Consider your school's language policy

If you already have a school language policy, it's worth considering how our curriculum can work alongside it. If not, we provide guidance for creating one as part of our offer.



3. What level of attainment do you want your learners to achieve?

The foreign language levels of your learners will vary, so it's important to set realistic attainment targets.



4. Which language or languages do you want to introduce?

It can be beneficial to offer learners a choice of language to study, or the opportunity to study more than one. Our curriculum provides a generic framework to support effective teaching of any foreign language.



5. Consider timetabling and teaching time

Your school context and educational aims will influence timetabling decisions such as the length of the school day and the number of days' schooling a week. Our curriculum is flexible and can be tailored to work for you.



6. A whole-school approach

Language links many areas of school life. Integrating foreign languages through cross-curricular projects develops a deeper understanding of both subjects.



7. Involve parents

Research shows that there is a clear link between parental engagement and learner performance. We provide a factsheet for parents to explain what support they can provide.



8. Involve the local community

Links in the local community give learners real-life opportunities to put their language skills learned in school into practice and develop their global citizenship.



9. Consider resources

This includes people, your learning environment, and educational resources such as books and authentic texts to support our curricula.



10. Monitor and evaluate

It's important to measure and evaluate the impact of learning to help you plan and improve learner outcomes.