



European Centre for Modern Languages  
Centre européen pour les langues vivantes  
Europäisches Fremdsprachenzentrum

Nikolaiplatz 4/1, A-8020 Graz  
Tel: +43 316 323554-0, Fax: +43 316 323554-4  
information@ecml.at, www.ecml.at

## ONLINE CONSULTATION ON EARLY LANGUAGE LEARNING

### PART ONE – BACKGROUND INFORMATION

#### 1 Your country

#### 2 Your role in early language education (more than one answer possible)

Parent

Student teacher for (pre-) primary level

(Pre-) Primary school teacher

Educational counsellors or mediator

Language teacher

Teacher of a subject other than languages

School principal

Teacher trainer

Academic researcher

Consultant

Inspector

Political decision maker

Other

3 In your educational context, formal early language learning concerns which age groups?

3 years +

5 years +

7 years +

9 years +

4 What languages are taught? (you can select more than one)

English

French

German

Spanish

Russian

Italian

A regional language (please specify below)

A second national language (please specify below)

Other (please specify below)

5 In your view, do the languages taught reflect the childrens' linguistic and educational needs?

- To a great extent     To some extent     Very little     Not at all

6 In your context what proportion of children have a first language other than the language of schooling?

- Fewer than 10%     10 – 20%     20 – 50%     More than 50%

7 Who are the teachers of foreign/second languages? (you can select more than one)

Generally the primary class teacher

Another class teacher of the same school

Specialist language teachers

Specialist support teachers for the language of schooling

Mediators, speakers of allophone children's first language

Other (please specify)

8 What provision is there for the training of teachers in early language learning? (you can select more than one)

It is part of general pre-service teacher education

It is an option in pre-service teacher education

It is available as an add-on qualification for practising teachers

There are intensive courses available for practising teachers

In-service training is available to acquire the necessary language competences

In-service training in language teaching methodology and didactics is available

Other provision (please specify)

9 Which of these statements, in your view, characterise the main purposes of early language teaching in your educational context? (more than one answer possible)

To profit from children's ability to learn language and contribute to successful foreign language learning over their school career

The integration of children with other languages into the school system

To familiarise children with other national and regional languages

The encouragement of language awareness, of openness to others

As a part of intellectual, social, individual development of children

Other (please specify)

10 Are there agreed national target levels of proficiency in a foreign language at the end of primary education?

Yes

No

10a If “yes”, what is the agreed level?

A1

A2

B1

10b In which language activities? (more than one answer possible)

Listening

Speaking

Reading

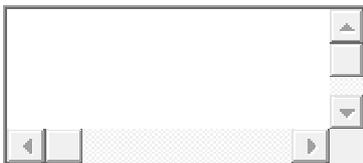
Writing

## PART TWO - YOUR IDEAS, OPINIONS, EXPERIENCE

11 What are the most important issues and challenges to successful implementation of language learning in your context?

A rectangular text input field with a light gray background and a thin border. It features a vertical scrollbar on the right side and horizontal scrollbars at the bottom, indicating it is a multi-line text area.

12 How far does the provision of teacher education meet the needs? What changes would you recommend?

A rectangular text input field with a light gray background and a thin border. It features a vertical scrollbar on the right side and horizontal scrollbars at the bottom, indicating it is a multi-line text area.

13 How do you think language teaching at primary level should be organised? e.g. what time of day? How many lessons a week? Length of language activities? What about pre-primary?

A rectangular text input field with a light gray background and a thin border. It features a vertical scrollbar on the right side and horizontal scrollbars at the bottom, indicating it is a multi-line text area.

14 In your view, foreign/second language learning by young children in your country is adapted to the needs and aptitudes ...

- of all children     
  of some children     
  in some regions or environments

15 What target levels (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages - CEFR) would you set for the end of primary school language learning in your country? How do you think this target should be assessed?

16 Here are some possible initiatives which the ECML might take in the area of early language learning. Please rate their importance in your educational context:

	Not important	Important	Very important
Use of descriptors of teacher competences specific to early language learning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Development of descriptions of didactic approaches specific to early language learning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Creation of teacher education modules for early language learning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Development of recommended curricula for pre-service teacher education for early language learning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Encouragement of international networks to share experience and expertise in this domain	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Examples of successful practice in early language learning, with videos	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Development of resource banks of materials and programmes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Guides to strategies for the organisation and implementation of early language learning

Development of CLIL approaches in this area

Approaches which take account of the learners' different language repertoires

Ways of including parents in early language education

Cooperation with other stakeholders in the school/pre-school environment

17 What other initiatives could the ECML take in the area of early language learning?

18 Please rank the following main themes in order of importance in your situation:

- Training and supporting language mediators in multilingual situation
- Providing training and support in the area of language teaching for all teachers
- Creating a variety of resources and programmes to improve language learning in various educational contexts
- Developing a whole-school approach to teaching and learning that values linguistic diversity
- Using the linguistic diversity present in your context for the benefit of all pupils

Drag  
your  
choices  
here to  
rank  
them

19 What is your view on the following statements?

Encouraging use of first language in classroom ...

Agree      Disagree      Don't know

creates confusion for pupils and teachers alike

facilitates the learning of languages

facilitates awareness of otherness and engagement in learning

In my educational context language teaching facilitates ...

Agree Disagree Don't know

an integrated approach to learning

clearly defined modules of teaching for individual languages without reference to additional languages that children may know

Learning of second/home/additional languages interferes with developing competence in the language of schooling.

Agree  Disagree  Don't know

20 Are there other issues, points of view or questions you would like to raise?



## PARTICIPATION IN THINK TANK ON EARLY LANGUAGE LEARNING

21 If invited, would you be available to take part in the think tank at the ECML in Graz, Austria on 1-2 December 2016?

Yes  No

22 What relevant experience and expertise could you offer?

23 Contact Information

First Name \* :

Last Name \* :

Email Address \* :

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRE

[Thank you for completing this survey.](#)