

## NST MFL NETWORK

‘A WHOLE SCHOOL MFL & INTERNATIONAL APPROACH – DOING A LOT WITH A LITTLE!’



*‘Multilingualism...is associated with better cognitive performance and higher academic achievement in children.’ (MEITS Multilingualism Project)*

*‘Learning another language not only provides practical communication skills, but has a unique role to play in developing cognition, literacy and cultural knowledge.’ British Council (LANGUAGE TRENDS 2016/17 SURVEY REPORT)*

NST outlines a desire to inspire children through a broad and balanced curriculum to **engage, excite and motivate** so as to enable all our children to fulfil their potential and become confident individuals, responsible citizens, future-proofed and **successful lifelong learners**. We believe that languages and international learning has the opportunity to permeate through every aspect of a school’s curriculum giving maximum impact to **support raising attainment** and preparing children to be **skilled linguists** and **global citizens**.

The MFL Programme of Study outlines ‘liberation from insularity’ and an ‘**opening to other cultures**’ as key objectives for establishing primary languages. We see the learning of a language as a way to **unlock an entire curriculum of core skills** such as grammar, reading and writing, multicultural awareness, global citizenship, British Moral Values, cross-curricular links and a range of international, parental and community engagement activities. With a whole school vision of teaching MFL and international learning— and one that encourages the ‘**do a lot with a little**’ philosophy - languages can indeed underpin a varied curriculum.

The MFL network will be led by Jo Darley International Dimension Education Manager at L.E.A.D. Academy Trust: an established Language Consultant with experience of teaching and supporting primary and secondary languages across the East Midlands; Nicola Husbands, Specialist Teaching consultant and Sandra Austerfield, MFL and International Dimension Lead at Rise Park Primary, who between them have experience: teaching languages from Nursery to secondary level; developing a bespoke and **progressive MFL curriculum**; established the Rise Park MFL network; achieved the International School Award and taken part in school exchanges with a link school in Colombia.

The meetings will provide opportunities to share ideas and discuss current priorities facing individual schools as well as the Trust as a whole. Schools will have the opportunity to discuss the focus of future network meetings and locate experts who can provide training tailored to our needs – all with a view to support and inspire MFL teachers whatever their experience and/or school’s MFL curriculum!

The half-day termly meetings are aimed at MFL leaders within school.

**The first network meeting will take place Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 1:30-4:30pm.**