



Friday, 14th - Saturday, 15th March 2025

Chesford Grange Hotel in Kenilworth, Warwickshire

Call for Contributions

Language World is the annual conference and professional learning and development event of the Association for Language Learning (ALL). It is a much-awaited two-day event each year for teachers of all languages and attracts hundreds of participants from across different areas of languages education both from the UK and from further afield. Delegates can listen to and be inspired by keynote speakers in plenary sessions, choose from and engage in a broad range of talks, reflect and debate as they look together at key areas relevant to their own context, and network with other languages educators across the sector.

Weaving a rich tapestry: our languages, our world(s)

The theme of Language World 2025 has been chosen by Dr Judith Rifesser, our incoming President. She explains her choice as follows:

The Language World 2025 theme centres around cherishing the richness of our multilingual and multicultural world and the diverse, personal, lived experiences of languages educators and all learners. Tapestry evokes a sense of home, a place that provides a sense of comfort and belonging, like our Association for Language Learning. It is the individual threads, each of them key to holding the whole together.

There is a rich history of tapestry across different cultures around the world, the skill and object passed down from generation to generation, holding rich accounts of our unique stories as humans, weaved together in this, our world.

Tapestry is an art that requires motivation, dedication, patience and resilience, much like the process of language learning. Like a tapestry, the front that is shown, can be quite different to the reverse. One might be perceived as more beautiful than the other, but both are vital, process and product. In our classrooms, our unique experiences of the world and the communities we live in are intrinsically woven together. We weave together threads in our curriculum planning and teaching, in our subject, and more widely. We weave a narrative into our Schemes of Learning and our daily lesson planning, we weave together cultural experiences, grammar, phonics and vocabulary, we weave in experiences from home and school, we weave in other strands of learning, we weave in what we have learned and what we are learning, weaving in a little of ourselves, and we weave and weave some more... All the different pieces of thread, or cloth, make together a glorious piece, showing the richness of our unique experiences of teaching and learning.

The theme is deliberately kept broad to allow you all, as languages educators, to find a thread that speaks to you.

We look forward to welcoming you to Language World 2025:

Friday, 14th - Saturday, 15th March 2025 at Chesford Grange Hotel in Kenilworth, Warwickshire.

Contributions

The planning for Language World 2025 is under way. We welcome submissions for oral presentations (15-30 minutes).

Please see below some suggestions collated by ALL members which make up the rich tapestry of language teaching and learning.

Here are some threads that you might like to explore:

1. Promoting and celebrating the rich tapestry of all our languages: motivation and engagement - engaging all our multilingual learners - increasing uptake at secondary and university - supporting transition and transfer
2. Weaving threads together in our curriculum design and development: developing a cohesive, engaging and well-sequenced pattern
3. Weaving threads of theory and practice together: putting theory into practice, action research, evidence-informed classroom practice
4. Weaving skills together
5. Weaving the threads of assessment together: assessment of and for learning, the new GCSE
6. Weaving culture into learning inside and outside the classroom: promoting trips and educational visits - developing international links and intercultural understanding
7. Threads of our languages community: weaving school and home and the wider community together; strengthening the threads between compulsory and supplementary schools
8. Integrating threads of technology into our classroom: using technology e.g. AI and online learning
9. Weaving the threads as leaders in languages: management - supporting the team of teachers - mentoring - training - writing - career progression in own school and beyond - ALL - other initiatives
10. The threads of specific sectors: primary, secondary, FE, HE, ITE, transition and transfer

We would also welcome other creative ideas which address the theme.

Abstract guidelines

Please submit your proposal of no more than 100 words for a presentation (15 or 30 minutes) via the online submission system, ensuring you complete all fields. Read the guidelines below carefully before submitting your abstract. We advise you to prepare your submission offline e.g. in a Word document before copying and pasting into our online form. The instructions on the system will guide you through the process.

In writing your abstract, please consider the following:

1. Title: What is your thread?
2. What are the key points discussed in your presentation?
3. How is your presentation relevant - useful - applicable to languages teachers and learners?

Submission deadline: 23:59 (UK time) on Tuesday 5 November 2024

We are planning to send notification of sessions accepted by week commencing 16th December 2024.

Key guidelines to read prior to submission

All contributions will be blind peer-reviewed. Reviewers will evaluate contributions on the quality of content. Therefore, all outlines must be anonymised in order to be considered. There must be no references to authors or institutions within the body of your abstract.

Number of submissions:

Usually only one presentation per speaker will be included in the Conference programme. But you are welcome to make multiple submissions, indicating your preferred submission.

Number of speakers in one session:

You will have the opportunity to name any co-presenters in your submission. Only one person needs to submit an abstract if you are presenting with someone.

Presentation Format:

We are keen to accept as many submitted presentations as possible, so will be offering two presentation formats. Flexibility around timings is welcome. You will be able to state your preferred presentation format during the submission process. However, we cannot guarantee you will be accepted to present in your preferred format.

- 30-minute presentation
- 15-minute presentation - In this format, two similar topic presentations will be delivered in the same 30-minute session

Speakers can choose how they allow for interaction with participants, whether within or at the end of the allocated slot. This could include a Q&A session.

Language World will take place in person at the Chesford Grange, Kenilworth. You will have the opportunity to select which day(s) you will be able to present, Friday 14 or Saturday 15 March 2025. Flexibility is welcome. We cannot offer a virtual presentation.

Content of the final presentation

- Please be mindful that the Association for Language Learning (ALL) serves and represents all sectors of education and all languages and examinations systems in the UK. Content should therefore be as inclusive as possible.
- Please bear in mind the importance of preparing a presentation that will be accessible to all participants. Please do make us aware of any accessibility requirements you might have.
- Any content in your presentation which is not your own MUST be appropriately and clearly referenced. ALL will not take any liability for plagiarism complaints; this is the speakers' responsibility. Please also ensure that any images used have the correct copyright.

Speaker bookings and attendance: Once the review process is complete, all accepted speakers will need to book to attend the conference. We are able to offer the following reduced rates for one speaker for each accepted presentation:

- Speaking day attendance only; £66 (inc vat)
- Two days Conference attendance £150 (inc vat)

Both registration types exclude accommodation and dinner.

Any additional speakers will need to register and pay as Language World delegates at the relevant delegate attendance rate. Unfortunately, our funds do not permit us to cover any expenses for speakers.

Please note that we are not planning to offer virtual presentations. The event will take place in person at the Chesford Grange, Kenilworth.

Deadline for Speaker Registration: All speakers must register by **23:59 Sunday 2 February 2025**. If registration has not been received by this date, your contribution will be removed from the programme.

On behalf of the ALL President and Conference Organising Committee we thank you for your interest in contributing to Language World 2025.