

Catherine Walter

From: Billy Clark [b.clark@mdx.ac.uk]
Sent: 08 June 2004 4:16 PM
To: CLIE
Subject: KS2 MFL Framework Meeting

Hi,

Here's a brief summary of a meeting I attended recently as CLIE's representative. It was a KS2 MFL Research Seminar on the 25th May and I attended standing in for Dick Hudson.

The purpose of the meeting was for researchers to give feedback to the writing team working on the Framework document. It was one of a series of meetings to gather feedback from various groups. I was one of three people invited to give a presentation to initiate discussion. The other two speakers were Dick Johnstone from Stirling and Ros Mitchell from Southampton. We were sent a copy of the latest confidential draft in advance of the meeting.

The draft we saw divided MFL work into four strands: oracy, literacy, knowledge about language, intercultural understanding. Some of the main things being aimed for are:

- making links with the National Literacy Strategy, and other areas (e.g. Citizenship)
- a smooth transition to KS3
- that it should be language-neutral and be applicable to any language (including community languages)

The team are also aiming to model their document on the recent 'Speaking and Listening' materials.

Obviously, a lot of different things were said, but some of the main issues discussed were:

- how to maximise opportunities with limited resources (the framework suggests 60 minutes per week on language(s))
- how to make sure language learning strategies have a prominent role
- exactly what to cover in the 'knowledge about language' strand
- keeping a clear distinction between oracy and literacy while also trying to ensure that these strands support each other
- relating work here to work in NLS and other areas

The team are now preparing a new draft which they will be presenting in June. There will be another seminar on the 20th July to discuss the new draft.

Terry Lamb & I are going to make some general suggestions re lg lg strats.

Hope this is clear. Let me know if not.

Best wishes,

Billy

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