

ALL-PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP on MODERN LANGUAGES

Chair: Nia Griffith MP (Lab); Co-Chair: Baroness Coussins (CB);
Vice-Chairs: Paul Maynard MP (Con); Baroness Sharp of Guildford (LD).

**Meeting on Wednesday 1 July 2015, 4pm - 5.15pm
Committee Room 12, House of Lords**

The successful implementation of primary languages

Dr Marina Dixon, Primary Languages Adviser, Schools' Choice, Suffolk LA:

Marina is an Italian national who taught English at colleges for over ten years in Piemonte, Italy, whilst running her own language school. She gained a PhD in Modern Foreign Languages from the University of Genova in 1987.

Marina moved to the UK in 1989 and taught languages at several secondary schools, becoming a Modern Foreign Languages AST in 2001. She became Suffolk Primary Languages Adviser in 2005 and, since then, she has been leading the introduction of Primary Languages in nearly 300 primary schools.

Marina is passionate about languages and language teaching. Since her secondary years as an MFL AST, she has been a dedicated and proactive advocate of the introduction of languages to the primary curriculum. In Suffolk, her track record of outstanding delivery over the past 10 years (culminating in the recently launched Linguamarque scheme) has generated an environment of credibility and trust that has enabled her to introduce significant beneficial change and improvements in the teaching and learning of Primary Languages. This has been comprehensively recognised across the full gamut of the educational community at local, regional and national levels.

Lara Townsend, Languages Independent Adviser, Suffolk Lead Key Practitioner:

Lara has been working in education for nineteen years. She has taught both languages and English at a number of secondary and middle schools in Essex and Suffolk and for four years was the MFL Head of Department in a very successful Language College. In 2009, Lara was seconded from the Language College to go and work as a Primary Languages Adviser in Suffolk with Marina Dixon, contributing to the successful implementation of Primary Languages in the county.

For the past three years, Lara has been working as an independent adviser, specialising in providing training and writing support materials for Primary Languages. She is a Lead Key Practitioner for languages in Suffolk and also works part time in a secondary school as a Literacy Teaching and Learning Coordinator.