

WoLLoW for the Chartered College

‘WoLLoW, World of Languages, Languages of the World, is a languages course designed by experienced teachers for pupils aged between 7 and 13. The course is not about learning a language but learning about languages, not only the languages we have traditionally taught, but the languages the pupils already know. The programme has been developed over the last five years, providing 120 complete lessons, from the days of the week in Urdu to braille, from the Greek alphabet to sign language. They can be taught, by specialists or non-specialists, as the language curriculum itself or alongside the teaching of a language.

The workshop will enable teachers to see, through sample lessons, how the programme to show how WoLLoW inverts the classroom in three key ways:

- WoLLoW is not about the learning of the specific but about curiosity, exploration and imagination.
- WoLLoW is dialogic, not didactic. It is not about the teacher telling pupils what they should know: it is about pupils sharing what they know as a means of growing understanding, not only of languages, but of each other.
- WoLLoW is not about the pupils who are good at languages, but about giving every pupil a voice.

We will also share recent research and feedback from schools which show how WoLLoW has been received in a wide range of schools, from highly academic junior schools to inner-city primaries and special schools.

Abbie Dean, Norwich School

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