

School Libraries Home Language Book Funding

2020 applications
now open for
Post-Primary Schools



We ♥ books— in foreign languages

We would like to encourage all students to maintain their home language. Home languages are part of a student's identity and heritage. Fluency and skills in a second language will be a useful tool for the student in life to build connections, understand diversity and expand future career choices. If students at your school have a home language other than English or Irish, you can avail of this funding to purchase books for your school library.

How does your school benefit?

STUDENTS:

School can support students' literacy and home language skills by providing material in that language. This can also make them feel included and show that the heritage of all students is valued. Students can benefit from the library resources if they sit exams or want to maintain their home language.

TEACHERS:

Your teachers will be able to make use of home language books and other materials, as well as to encourage students to use them.

SCHOOL LIBRARY:

Your school library will be more inclusive, diverse and better able to support all students' home language skills and heritage. This is in line with the Department of Education and Skills National Strategy: Literacy and Numeracy for Learning and Life 2011-2020, which states: 'We must develop the literacy and numeracy skills of all young people.'

SCHOOL:

The scheme is free of charge.

Guidelines for Primary School Library Home Languages Scheme

1. How does it work?

- ✓ If you have students who speak languages other than English or Irish, enquire what books or other resources they might want in the school library.
- ✓ Students may also opt for other resources to assist with language activities. These could include magazines, comics, reference books, maps, traditional or digital games, etc.
- ✓ The Leaving Certificate curricular languages will include Polish, Lithuanian, Portuguese and Mandarin Chinese. Is it possible you might have students who will sit these exams? Remember that the current Leaving Certificate curricular languages include Russian and Arabic along with French, German, Spanish, Italian and Japanese. You might also have students sitting a non-curricular Leaving Certificate language subject (i.e. any EU language). The school library can provide material to help these students develop their home languages and support their studies.
- ✓ Some links and ideas are provided to assist schools to source books and resources.

2. Checklist for criteria:

- ✓ Your school is a Department of Education & Skills registered post-primary school.
- ✓ Your students would benefit from foreign language books and other resources.
- ✓ The library agrees to display a Languages Connect sticker on the books purchased.
- ✓ The maximum funding granted per school is €500.
- ✓ The school accepts that it will acquire the books and resources independently and that funding will be provided by reimbursement upon provision of receipts.
- ✓ The school agrees to fill in a short evaluation form to give feedback 6 months after the full reimbursement.
- ✓ You agree to promote access to these books and resources to all students via their teachers, parents association, and other school communication channels.

3. Apply for funding in a few simple steps

Apply for funding by filling in a simple form
<https://bit.ly/2S0pCyr>

Application deadline is **15th May 2020**.

Funding applications will be approved prior to **Friday 29th May**.

All reimbursement forms need to be returned with receipts by **23rd October 2020**. Books and other materials can be purchased any time up to that point.

4. Book suggestions

- The International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) is a non-profit organisation which represents an international network of people from more than 80 countries who are committed to bringing books and children together. Find them at: <https://www.ibby-europe.org/>
- **International Books:** International Books is a specialist independent bookseller in Dublin supplying learning materials and story books in a wide variety of languages. Find them at: <https://www.internationalbooks.ie/>
- **Book Depository:** Book Depository is a leading international book retailer. It was acquired by Amazon in 2011. Find them at: <https://bit.ly/2prKCTD>

Languages Connect aims to raise awareness of the many personal, social, economic and professional benefits of foreign language skills for all Irish people. It is delivered by Post-Primary Languages Ireland (PPLI) as part of the Irish Government strategy Languages Connect: Ireland's Foreign Languages Strategy 2017-2027. Accessible at: <https://bit.ly/2m6HPxX>

The School Library Home Languages Scheme is administered under Action 2.E.4 of the Strategy *'Schools and libraries should have books, digital resources etc. available in a variety of relevant home languages'*.

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