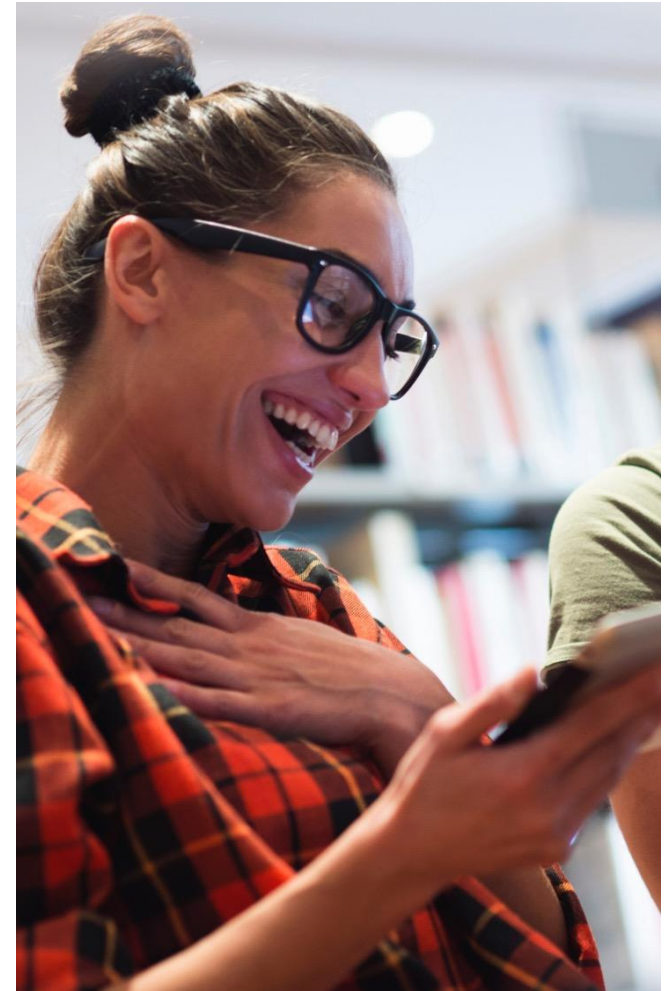


# Guidance Counsellors information evening resource

## Senior cycle language supports

# In these slides, we will present...

- The current context for language learning
- Studying languages at third level
- The languages available for study/examination
- The levels of the curricular languages
- Available supports



# Language learning: the current context



# Boost your skills!

- Research highlights **increased productivity** amongst those with language skills due to their associated **transversal skills** including:
  - **Adaptability** and **openness to other cultures**
  - **Enhanced divergent thinking** skills
  - **Abstract and symbolic representation** skills.
- Ireland's *National Skills Strategy 2025* also lists foreign languages and cultural awareness among the **cross-sectoral skills** which improve an individual's employability and enable occupational mobility.



# Ireland needs global citizens who are multilingual and interculturally competent!

- Multilingual citizens are **more likely to actively participate in global issues**: Research led by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (2022) called for further investment in learning languages as a means of solving global challenges.
- Increasing trade and cultural exchange with the EU and Asia is leading to a greater need for employees who have **capacity in language and intercultural skills**.





## Languages are the key to unlocking potential in European markets for many Irish exporters



Andrew Tobin is CEO of cloud solutions firm Stryve

**Patrick Torrekens**

December 11 2022 02:30 AM



- “We...believe that to unlock further potential and revenue from European markets, diversification is important and multilingual capabilities are key. To this end, language capability should be viewed as an opportunity rather than a barrier to trade.”

**Patrick Torrekens**  
**Head of Enterprise Ireland France**  
**11 December 2022**

# A Foreign Language is a Valuable Life Skill



# Languages at Third Level and beyond





# Studying Languages at Third Level

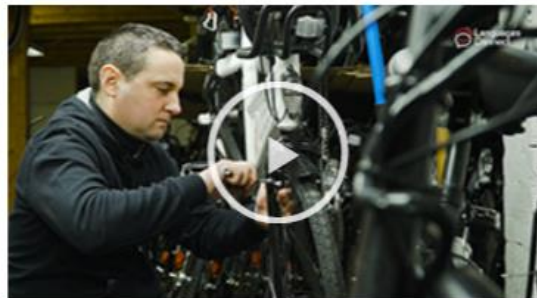
*Did you know?*

- Over 590 third level courses in which a language component can be included are currently available.
- Languages are available to study as a major, minor or an elective  
Some courses allow for students to take up a new language, providing beginner level modules.
- Many CAO courses with a language option allow for students to study for a year abroad, either in another EU country or even further afield.  
Studying abroad can, in some circumstances, upgrade the final qualification to an international qualification.
- Find out more about what post-Leaving Certificate study options are available to students by visiting [careersportal.ie](https://careersportal.ie), using the dedicated Languages Connect course filter.

# Unexpected careers with languages



## Working with languages



# Leaving Certificate curricular and non- curricular languages



# Leaving Certificate Languages

## Curricular languages:

- French, German, Italian, Japanese, Lithuanian, Mandarin Chinese, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish

## Non-curricular languages:

- Any European Union language not offered as a curricular language: e.g. Dutch, Romanian
- Ukrainian (from 2025 onwards)

**Curricular languages have aural, oral, reading and written assessments.**

**Non-curricular languages have reading and writing assessments only.**





# Levels of languages

## CEFR A2/B1

- French, German, Italian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese and Spanish are broadly aligned to A2/B1 levels of the CEFR.

## CEFR Pre-A1/A1

- Japanese and Mandarin Chinese are pitched at *ab initio* level and broadly aligned with Pre-A1/A1 level of the CEFR



# Specific Supports for Senior Cycle



# Support for Senior Cycle

Post-Primary Languages Ireland (PPLI) supports fifth and sixth year students with Saturday classes in lesser taught languages.

Students must be entering into fifth year to avail of the support.

Further information can be found at [languagesconnect.ie/language-classes/](https://languagesconnect.ie/language-classes/)





# Keep in touch

- For any queries,  
please contact: [info@ppli.ie](mailto:info@ppli.ie)
- On social media:
  - Facebook: [Languages Connect](#)
  - Twitter: [LangsConnect\\_ie](#)
  - Instagram: [Languages Connect](#)
  - YouTube: [Languages Connect](#)
- Feedback:





# Thank you



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