



Every Language Learner presents:

International Mother Language Day

School Planning Checklist

1 Clarify your purpose

- We have agreed a clear message about why home languages matter
- The focus is on belonging and inclusion (not tokenistic celebration)
- Staff understand that this is for the whole school community

2 Choose a realistic approach

- We have selected an activity that fits our time and capacity.
- We are starting small if this is our first year
- Responsibilities are shared and manageable

3 Plan low-workload, high-impact visibility

- Multilingual “Hello” display created
- Pupils’ names displayed in home languages
- Language map of the school/community
- Multilingual word/phrase of the week

4 Prepare an inclusive assembly (if applicable)

- Clear explanation of what International Mother Language Day is
- Focus on identity, belonging, and respect
- Pupil contributions are optional and prepared in advance
- No pupil is put on the spot

5 Involve families (gently and respectfully)

- Families invited to share stories, rhymes, or greetings (optional)
- Contributions can be written, audio, or visual
- Communication explains why home languages are valued
- No pressure to participate



6 Support staff and build understanding

- Staff have simple, ready-to-use activity ideas
- Staff know they do not need to be language experts
- Links to school values and inclusion priorities are clear

7 Make it relevant for all pupils

- Activities include monolingual and multilingual pupils
- Language identity is explored broadly (including dialect and accent)
- Messages avoid “us and them” narratives

8 Think beyond one day

- Multilingual signage considered
- Home languages visible in displays year-round
- Pupil voice included in future planning
- Next steps identified for ongoing language inclusion

Start small. Build sustainably.

You do not need to do everything, one thoughtful action can make a meaningful difference. **Every language matters.**



Every Language Learner

Every Learner. Every Language. Every Classroom.

