

Leeds City of Languages

Celebrating languages, cultures and global connections.

10th – 24th of November 2025

<https://leedscityoflanguages.leeds.ac.uk/>

Hola

Guten tag

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Programme

For more information click on the links

The festival offers free **Taster Sessions for Schools** including Arabic, Catalan, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Persian, Portuguese, Quechua, Russian, Spanish, Thai, Ukrainian, Comparative Literature, Interpreting, Linguistics, Translation. Book [here](#).

What's on

	Audience	Info
Monday 10th November		
10:00 Workshop: An Alphabet Adventure Through Languages and Times, by the British Library	Primary schools	Free. Booking required.
12:00 Year Abroad Photo Exhibition Opening and announcement of winners	Uni of Leeds students and staff	Free. No booking required. On campus: Language Zone.
14:00 Film screening: Souleymane's Story: A Journey of Survival and Resilience (Boris Lojkine, 2024)	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson B.11
16:00 Webinar: Languages For All: School collaborations to boost A-level numbers, by Michael Slavinsky	Headteachers, Heads of Languages and MFL Teachers	Free. Online. Booking required.
16:00 Talk: A for Allegiance: Nazi, Soviet and contemporary Russian Propaganda in Children's Literature and Textbooks, by the British Library	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Michael Sadler 1.01
16:00 Language Taster: Greek	Uni of Leeds students and staff	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.31
17:30 Language and Culture Exchange: Global Café	Uni of Leeds students and staff	Free. No booking required. On campus: LUU Common Ground
19:30 Webinar: UKLO - Introducing the UK Linguistics Olympiad	Open to all	Free. Online. Booking required.
Tuesday 11th November		
10:00 Language Taster: Thai	Uni of Leeds students and staff	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.31
12:00 Webinar: Maximising the benefit of early years education for children's language development, by Prof Cat Davies	Open to all	Free. Online. Booking required.
16:00 Webinar: Understanding the complex reality behind the EAL label, by Prof Cecile de Cat	Teachers. Youth workers. Families.	Free. Online. Booking required.
16:00 Talk: Forging the Nation: Empire and the Nation in Putin's Russia, by Dr Joe Colleyshaw	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.20
18:00 Film screening: La política en la calle: Ez, eskerrik asko! La ventana de Gladys (Bertha Gaztelumendi, 2019)	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson B.08

Wednesday 12th November

10:30	Story & Rhyme session in Polish at Beeston Library	For under 5's, parents and carers	Free. No booking required. Beeston Library.
12:00	Level Tests at Instituto Cervantes	Open to all	Free. Online. Booking required.
13:00	Language Taster: Kurdish	Uni of Leeds students and staff	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.31
16:00	Webinar: Oracy is for everyone, by Prof Stephen Coleman	Teachers and Youth Workers	Free. Online. Booking required.
17:00	Taster Session: Discover Portuguese	Open to all	Free. Online. Booking required.
17:00	Talk: Anantapur, a Spanish Ocean in an Indian desert, by Ana Sevilla-Merino	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Michael Sadler 1.01
19:00	Taster session: French Beginners, by Alliance Française de Leeds	Open to all	Free. Online. Booking required.
19:45	Taster session: French Intermediate, by Alliance Française de Leeds	Open to all	Free. Online. Booking required.

Thursday 13th November

10.30	Story & Rhyme session in Spanish at Truman Books	For under 5's, parents and carers	Free. No booking required. Truman Books.
12:00	Taster Session: Italian	Uni of Leeds students and staff	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.31
13:00	Taster Session: Spanish	Uni of Leeds students and staff	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.31
16:00	Webinar: What Languages can do for you: opportunities across the globe, by Dr Peter Haysom-Rodríguez	Y7-Y13 students, families and teachers	Free. Online. Booking required.
16:00	Webinar: Language Courses to Promote the Leeds-Dortmund Twinning, by Geoff Tranter	Open to all	Free. Online. Booking required.
18:00	Film Screening: "Esta tierra es mia: El campo para el hombre" (Colectivo Cine de Clase, 1975)	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson B.08
19:00	Webinar: Practical Tools to Use Multilingualism as an Asset and Transform Your School Culture, by Yoshito Darmon-Shimamori	Teachers	Free. Online. Booking required.
19:00	Book Club Meeting at The Little Bookshop	Open to all	Booking required. The Little Bookshop. General admission £7.00
19:00	Leeds Language Exchange: Language and Culture Exchange	Open to all	Free. No booking required. The Griffin Pub, £1 entry

Friday 14th November

10:30	Story & Rhyme session in Portuguese at Farsley Library	For under 5's, parents and carers	Free. No booking required. Farsley Library.
12:00	Taster Session: Ukrainian	Uni of Leeds students and staff	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.31
13:00	Recital: Art Sung - Jane Bathori: A Dove at the Vieux-Colombier	Open to all	Free. Booking required. Clothworkers Centenary Concert Hall
19:30	Concert: Ailish Tynan & Joseph Middleton (French)	Open to all	Free. Booking required. Clothworkers Centenary Concert Hall

Saturday 15th November

14:00	Vocal Masterclass with Dame Felicity Lott	Open to all	Booking required. General admission £10/ Free for students. Clothworkers Centenary Concert Hall
16:00	Leeds Language Exchange: Language and Culture Exchange	Open to all	Free. No booking required. World Peace Café

Monday 17th November

10:00	Taster Session: Spanish Beginners at Instituto Cervantes	Open to all	Free. Booking required. Instituto Cervantes.
10:00	French Reading & Rhyme session	Primary Schools	Free. Booking required.
10:45	Taster Session: Spanish Lower Intermediate at Instituto Cervantes	Open to all	Free. Booking required. Instituto Cervantes.
11:30	Taster Session: Spanish Beginners at Instituto Cervantes	Open to all	Free. Online. Booking required. Instituto Cervantes.
12:15	Taster Session: Spanish Lower Intermediate at Instituto Cervantes	Open to all	Free. Online. Booking required. Instituto Cervantes.
13:00	Taster Session: Spanish, with a focus on pronunciation	Uni of Leeds students and staff	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.31
13:00	World in Translation: beyond English Wikipedia	Open to all	Free. Booking required. On campus: Edward Boyle Library.
17:00	Talk: Lope de Vega, the Spanish Shakespeare. Prof Duncan Wheeler in conversation with Gonzalo Pontón	Open to all	Free. No booking required. Leeds Central Library
17:25	Taster Session: Spanish Beginners at Instituto Cervantes Leeds	Open to all	Free. Online. Booking required. Instituto Cervantes.
17:30	Language and Culture Exchange: Global Café	Uni of Leeds students and staff	Free. No booking required. On campus: LUU Common Ground
18:10	Spanish Lower Intermediate Taster at Instituto Cervantes Leeds	Open to all	Free. Online. Booking required. Instituto Cervantes.
18:55	Taster Session: Spanish Beginners at Instituto Cervantes Leeds	Open to all	Free. Booking required. Instituto Cervantes.
19:40	Taster Session: Spanish Lower Intermediate at Instituto Cervantes Leeds	Open to all	Free. Booking required. Instituto Cervantes.

Tuesday 18th November

9:00	Webinar: Where can languages take me? by the British Council	Secondary Schools	Free. Online. Booking required.
10.30	Story & Rhyme session in French at Truman Books	For under 5's, parents and carers	Free. No booking required. Truman Books.
12:00	Workshop: Discover the Art of Portuguese Tiles	Open to all	Free. Booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.20
14:00	Workshop: Problematising linguistic hierarchies, power and labels, org by Natasha Rust, Ramzi Merabet & Niamh Mullen	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson B.10
15:00	Taster Session: Czech		Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.31

16:00	Film screening: Holy Cow (Louise Courvoisier, 2025)	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 1.08
17:30	Talk: Does German sound aggressive and French romantic? Attitudes about languages and the truth behind them, by Prof. Sascha Stollhans	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson B.08

Wednesday 19th November

12:00	Taster Session: Arabic	Uni of Leeds students and staff	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.20
12:00	Workshop: Discover the Art of Origami	Uni of Leeds students and staff	Free. No booking required. On campus: E C Stoner, 7.79
12:00	Level Tests at Instituto Cervantes	Open to all	Free. Booking required. Cervantes Institute.
12:40	K-Pop Dance Performance	Open to all	Free. On campus: Michael Sadler LG10
13:00	Language Exchange at The Language Zone	Uni of Leeds students and staff	Free. No booking required. On campus: Language Zone.
13:00	Workshop: Applying thematic analysis to explore perceptions and self-reported behaviours: using students' interview and reflective diary data as examples, by Dr Huahui Zhao	Univ of Leeds staff and postgraduate researchers	Free. Booking required. On campus: Coach House. Hilary Place.
13:10	Korean Language and Culture Taster	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus. Michael Sadler LG17
13:10	Language Coaching for Absolute Korean Beginner Learners	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.25
14:00	Korean Calligraphy	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.20
14:00	Korean Language Exchange	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.15
15:00	Korean Calligraphy	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.20
15:00	Traditional Korean Patchwork Craft Workshop	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.29
15:00	The Language of Coins, by Dr Sam Gartland	Open to all	Free. Booking required. On campus: Brotherton Library, Bedford Room
16:00	Webinar: Bring the world into your classroom with the British Council	School teachers	Free. Online. Booking required.
16:00	Workshop: Nothing remained unchanged but the clouds, by Dr Corinne Painter	Open to all	Free. Booking required. On campus: Parkinson B.11
16:30	Squid Game	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Michael Sadler LG10
17:10	Japanese Koto Performance	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On Campus: Michael Sadler Room LG.04
17:30	Film screening: "Mamífera" (Liliana Torres, 2024)	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 1.08

19:30	Concert: LUMA Trio (Chile)	Open to all	Booking required. General admission £10/ Free for students. Clothworkers Centenary Concert Hall
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Thursday 20th November

12:00	Talk: Racial hierarchy in Edwardian Yorkshire: Bradford's Somali Village of 1904, by Prof Fozia Bora	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Baines Wing 3.06
12:00	Taster Session: Turkish	Uni of Leeds students and staff	Free. No booking required. On Campus: Parkinson 2.20
13:00	Portuguese Tongue Twister Challenge – Speak, Stick, Score!	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson B.28
14:00	Workshop: Chinese Calligraphy	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson B.08
16:00	Talk: Football in Colombia: A decade of meaning, by Dr Pete Watson	Open to all.	Free. Booking required. On campus: Baines Wing 3.06
16:00	Taster Session: Slovene	Uni of Leeds students and staff	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.25
16:00	Workshop: <i>Canções Para Abreviar Distâncias</i>: Music as a Facilitator of the Dissemination and Understanding of Poetry, by Isabella Bretz	Uni of Leeds students of Portuguese	Free. No booking required. On campus: Michael Sadler LG.17
16:00	Film Screening: “L’immensità” (Emanuele Crialesi, 2022)	Open to all	Free. No booking required. On campus: room TBC
17:00	Roundtable: What is language in Large Language Models, org. by Prof Serge Sharoff	Open to all	Free. Booking required. On campus: Parkinson B.11
18:30	Talk: 50 years since the death of Franco, by Prof Duncan Wheeler	Open to all	Free. Online Booking required.
19:00	Leeds Language Exchange: Language and Culture Exchange	Open to all	Free. No booking required. The Griffin Pub, £1 entry

Friday 21st of November

12:00	Webinar: Thinking Strategically: Challenges Facing Language Educators	Open to all	Free. Online. Booking required.
12:00	Language Taster: Catalan	Uni of Leeds students and staff	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.28
13:00	Mother Tongue Other Tongue Competition – launch of the anthology	Young people aged 8-18	Free. No booking required. On campus: Language Zone
13:00	Taster Session: Quechua	Uni of Leeds students and staff	Free. No booking required. On campus: Parkinson 2.31
15:30	Roundtable: Towards a sustainable future for languages in UK Education, org. by Prof Emma Cayley	Open to all	Free. Booking required. On campus: Newlyn GR01
19:00	Closing Ceremony: Concert - Isabella Bretz & Rodrigo Lana (Brazil)	Open to all	Free. Booking required. Clothworkers Centenary Concert Hall

Saturday 22nd of November

14:00	Pages and Brushes: A Celebration of Visual Language	Open to all	Free. Booking required. Northern Monk Brewery
16:00	Leeds Language Exchange: Language and Culture Exchange	Open to all	Free. No booking required. World Peace Café

Sunday 23rd of November

12:00	Workshop: Chinese Dance, by Leeds Chinese Community School	Open to all	Free. Booking required. Leeds Chinese Community School
13:00	Taster Session: Mandarin, by Leeds Chinese Community School	Open to all	Free. Booking required. Leeds Chinese Community School
14:00	Taster Session: Cantonese, by Leeds Chinese Community School	Open to all	Free. Booking required. Leeds Chinese Community School
15:00	Taster Session: Spanish, at Leeds Chinese Community School	Open to all	Free. Booking required. Leeds Chinese Community School

Competitions

- [Year Abroad Photo Competition](#)
- [Mother Tongue Other Tongue](#)
- [The GCHQ National Language Competition](#)
- [Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators](#)

Deadline

- 25/09/2025
- 24/10/2025
- 21/11/2025
- 27/03/2026

Contact:

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Leeds City of Languages 2025 Partners

Our diverse programme thrives thanks to the generous support of regional, national and international partners, who share their expertise, time and resources to celebrate multilingualism and encourage language learning across Yorkshire. See full list [here](#).

