



MANY LANGUAGES, ONE LEEDS



170 languages. One city. Thousands of voices.

A guide to help your school or group celebrate the many languages spoken across Leeds.

Leeds is a city of many voices. Around 170 languages are spoken across the city and we want young people to help us celebrate them. Children and young people are invited to create a small decorated tile showing what Leeds means to them and the different ways they say "hello" in the languages they speak, hear or use at home, at school and in their communities. The finished tiles will be brought together to form the word LEEDS, creating a collective artwork celebrating the languages and people of our city. The artwork will be displayed during the Leeds City of Languages Festival as part of Leeds400.

What will you need?

Each young person or group will need:

- Cardboard tiles, provided by Leeds City Council
- Pens, pencils, crayons, paint or collage materials
- Ideas about the places, people, words and things that make you think of Leeds
- The language or languages that are part of your life
- You don't need to be an artist! Every tile should be different!
- Tiles can be created individually, in pairs or small groups.

What should you put on the tile?

Decorate your tile with things that make you think of Leeds.

You could include drawings, patterns, colours or words inspired by your neighbourhood or school, favourite places in Leeds, parks, buildings or landmarks, food, music, sport or celebrations, family and friends; things you see on your journeys around Leeds, or simply something you think makes Leeds special. Please do not include any personal information on the tile such as young person's name. There is no right or wrong way to decorate your tile. We want it to **show your Leeds and your languages.**

Where do the languages come in?

On the front of your tile, include the words(s) or greetings(s) you use to say "hello" in the languages that are part of your life.

This might be a language you speak at home, a language spoken by your family, a language you use with friends or a language you are learning at school. You can include one language or several. For British Sign Language, you could include a drawing or visual representation of the sign for "hello". If you are unsure how a greeting should be written, ask someone who speaks the language to help you. Use the languages' own writing system where possible. The important thing is that the language(s) on your tile have a **real connection to you.**

Who can take part?

Any school, group or setting working with children and young people in an LS postcode area.

Do you put your names on the tiles?

Please do not put young people's names, contact details or other personal information on the front of the tiles, as they will become part of a public exhibition. On the back of each tile, please write: language(s) represented, school or group name and year group or age. Individual young people's names are not required.

What happens to your tiles?

Tiles created by schools and youth groups across Leeds will be collected and brought together to form the word **LEEDS**.

Together, the individual pictures, words and languages will create **one large artwork celebrating Leeds as a multilingual city.** The finished artwork will be displayed as part of **Leeds400 and the Leeds City of Languages Festival.**

Before you finish your tiles...

Please check that:

- "Hello" is clearly visible in at least one language
- The name of the language(s) used is written clearly on the back
- The tile includes something inspired by Leeds
- Any collage materials are firmly attached and nothing is likely to fall off
- No names or personal contact details for children or young people have been added
- No food, perishable items or sharp materials have been used.

How do you take part?

1. Register your school or group by sending the registration form to leedscityoflanguages@leeds.ac.uk, by 19th of October, and you will receive your tiles by post.

2. Once you have received the tiles, decorate them

Use the activity with a class, year group, language class, art group or youth group.

3. Tell us about the languages represented

Write the name of the language(s) used on the back of each tile and include a completed school/group cover sheet with your tiles.

4. Send or deliver your tiles by the 9th of November to:

S. Martinho

Michael Sadler Building, room 232

School of Languages, Cultures and Societies,

University of Leeds

Woodhouse Lane LS2 9JT

If you have difficulty sending or delivering your tiles, please contact us and we will do our best to help.

Questions? Please contact:

leedscityoflanguages@leeds.ac.uk

