

Submission from Mrs Valerie Cox

Languages are more easily assimilated at a young age and I agree that two modern languages should be taught at primary school to pupils who find it easy and interesting. For slower learners perhaps one would suffice.

French, being the language of diplomacy should be the first, and Spanish the second.

Jamie McGrigor doesn't mention Gaelic and I feel that it should really be classed with Latin and Greek as a dead language. I am sorry about this but living in Argyll I know that there are very few native Gaelic speakers left, although there are a number of 'incomers' who go to Gaelic classes. Gaelic schools are a retrograde step as there will never be sufficient text books at advanced levels printed. In Eire years ago Erse was made compulsory in primary schools and was very unpopular.

I know that this is not part of this question, but languages are a hobby of mine and having learnt both Latin and Ancient Greek at school I have found them a very useful tool in dealing with other languages, even my own and if possible should be taught at Secondary schools.

I hope this helpful.