

## Interview Schedule: SCHOOL PRINCIPALS SPRING 2010

- 1 Based on your experiences so far, do you consider the age of (insert country-specific start age) years as an appropriate age to begin language learning in school? Why / why not?
- 2 What do you think about a start age earlier than this? What gains (if any) do you anticipate for the children from an early start)?
- 3 In general, where would you now place your staff opinions on the introduction of early language learning?
  - i. very positive
  - ii. mainly positive
  - iii. unsure
  - iv. mainly negative
- 4 How would you comment on the parents' views now for an early start (6/7 years)?
  - i. very positive
  - ii. mainly positive
  - iii. unsure
  - iv. mainly negative
- 5 Have there been any changes in FL staffing and provision during the past 3 (4) years of the ELLiE study?
- 6 What is your opinion of your school's FL teacher(s) FL competence and FL teaching skills?
- 7 Do you consider the curriculum time allocated for FLs at primary level is satisfactory?
- 8 In general, how do you feel about using multimedia (e.g. DVD, Computers, recorders, etc) with this age group (9-11 year-olds), in school?
  - i. very positive
  - ii. mainly positive
  - iii. unsure
  - iv. mainly negativeCan you explain your answer?
- 9 If you had the resources, what might you choose to invest in to support FL teaching and learning?

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- 10 Do you plan any resource changes in the near future?
- 11 Did you receive (or do you expect) any visits this school year from people who can speak to the children in (insert language)?
- 12 (Where applicable): What is the status of (insert language) in your school?
  - i. FL lessons are a high priority and are never cancelled
  - ii. FL lessons may be postponed if some special event is happening that week.
  - iii. In some weeks of the year a few FL lessons are cancelled.
- 13 Does the school support and encourage teachers to attend relevant in-service training? If so, please indicate how?
  - i. Releasing teachers from lessons/school responsibilities.
  - ii. Funding substitute teachers.
  - iii. Providing additional salary payments to teachers who attend in-service courses/events.
  - iv. Other
- 14 How would you comment on the parents' views on FL?
  - i. very positive
  - ii. mainly positive
  - iii. unsure
  - iv. mainly negative
- 15 Have you heard any reactions from parents on the FL lessons in this school in general and for this class in particular?
- 16 Over the 3 to 4 yr period of the study, how has this school's attitude to learning FLs changed (if at all)?
- 17 In your school are you experiencing increased numbers of children with other language backgrounds? If so, how does this affect the teaching of the FL?
- 18 Do you have contact with the middle school/secondary school (insert country-specific term for next phase of schooling) in connection with continuity for language learning? If so, what kind of contacts do you have?