



4 February 2025 British Council, Delhi

Programme









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Enhancing Multilingual Pedagogy and Practice in the Classroom

India's education system is undergoing transformative reforms to prepare students for a future defined by technological advancements and global challenges. The National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) and the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE) emphasise holistic, competency-based education, integrating contemporary subjects and multilingual pedagogy. Recognising the importance of linguistic diversity, NEP 2020 advocates for using home or regional languages as mediums of instruction, particularly in early education, to enhance learning outcomes, cognitive development, and social cohesion.

The British Council and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) have been instrumental in advancing these goals through research, teacher training, and innovative programmes that strengthen curriculum, pedagogy, and assessment in schools. To further these efforts, this conference, "Enhancing Multilingual Pedagogy and Practice in the Classroom," will convene educators, policymakers, and experts to explore strategies, tools, and resources for effective multilingual instruction. Through interactive sessions and workshops, the conference aims to foster inclusive classrooms, celebrate linguistic diversity, and align with India's educational priorities for a cohesive and pluralistic society.

Objectives

- To highlight and share best practices in multilingual education and multilingual pedagogy in line with NEP 2020.
- To explore and discuss innovative practices in school education that align with NEP 2020 and NCF-SE, especially in relation to multilingual education.
- To provide a forum for educators and policymakers to collaborate and drive forward key educational reforms.











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4 February 25

08.00 – 08.45	Registration
08.45 – 09.00	Guests to be seated in the theatre
09.00 – 09.10	Welcome
	Speaker: Alison Barrett MBE, Country Director- India, British Council
09.10 – 09.15	 Inauguration and lighting of the lamp Dignitaries: VVIP-UK Sh. Sanjay Kumar, Secretary Education, Department of Education and Literacy Rahul Singh IAS, Chairperson, Central Board of Secondary Education Christina Scott CMG, Minister and Deputy High Commissioner to India Alison Barrett MBE, Country Director- India, British Council
09.15 – 09.20	Inaugural address Speaker: VVIP
09.20- 09.35	Keynote address Speaker: Sh. Sanjay Kumar, Secretary Education, Department of Education and Literacy Topic: "Harnessing Multilingual Pedagogy for 21st Century Learning: Bridging Policy, Practice, and Classroom Realities"
09.35- 09.45	Special Address Speaker: Rahul Singh, Chairperson, Central Board of Secondary Education
09.45 – 10.45	 Panel Discussion 1 Theme: Innovative Pedagogy and Curriculum Design Moderator: Gauri Puranik, Head of English and Schools Programmes India, British Council Panellists: Dr Praggya, Director (Academics), Central Board of Secondary Education Dr. Harry Kuchah, Associate Professor of Language, Social Justice, and Education, University of Birmingham Dr R Meghanathan, Prof. & Acting Head - International Relations Division, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)

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10.45 – 11.15	Plenary session 1
	Topic: Building linguistic bridges: Lessons from multilingual learners
	Speaker: Dr. Harry Kuchah , Associate Professor of Language, Social Justice, and
	Education, University of Birmingham
11.15 – 11.45	Plenary session 2
	Topic: Multiliteracies for multilingual learners: Making it happen
	Speaker: Dr Dhir Jhingran , Founder Director of Language and Learning
	Foundation
11.45 – 12.30	Tea/Coffee break
12.30 – 13.15	Panel Discussion 2
	Theme: Teacher Preparedness for Multilingual Classrooms
	Moderator: Sarah Rogerson, Director English Programmes South Asia and East Asia, British Council
	Panellists:
	 Prof. Dr. Jacopo Torregrossa, Professor of Multilingualism and Second Language Acquisition, Goethe University Frankfurt
	 Prof Sreekanth Yagnamurthy, Professor & Principal at Regional Institute of Education, Mysore
	 Dr Lina Mukhopadhyay, Professor School of English Language Education, English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad
13.15 – 14.30	Lunch break
14.30 – 16.00	Workshops (Breakout sessions)
	 Leadership and Professional Development in Education.
	Facilitator: Dr. Harry Kuchah , Associate Professor of Language, Social Justice,
	and Education, University of Birmingham
	Innovative Practices in Language Teaching Facilitates But Facilitates Bu
	Facilitator: Prof. Dr. Jacopo Torregrossa , Professor of Multilingualism and Second Language Acquisition, Goethe University Frankfurt
	Inclusion in the classroom
	Facilitator: Priya Iyer , Senior Academic Manager, British Council

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16.00 – 16.30	Plenary session 3 Topic: The multilingual assessment challenge: the way forward? Speaker: Rama Mathew, ELT Consultant and Retired Professor of Education, University of Delhi
16.30 – 16.50	 Summarising and sharing workshop outcomes Moderator: Rama Mathew Prof. Dr. Jacopo Torregrossa, Professor of Multilingualism and Second Language Acquisition, Goethe University Frankfurt Priya lyer, Senior Academic Manager, British Council Dr. Harry Kuchah, Associate Professor of Language, Social Justice, and Education, University of Birmingham
16.50 – 17.00	Closing remarks by Michael Houlgate, Deputy Director India, British Council
17.00 – 18.00	High tea / Networking reception and close









