



# Tool 6 – Reflecting on my teaching approaches

**Task:** Reflect on your own teaching with regard to languages and cultures

- What opportunities do the children in my classroom have to share different language and cultural experiences:
  - As part of the curriculum?
  - As part of the daily classroom practices?
- How do I observe, assess, and document the language skills of the children in my class:
  - In the language of the education system?
  - In any additional languages taught as part of the curriculum?
- How do you observe, assess, and document the skills of any children that speak additional languages not included in the official curriculum?

How can these be used to support the diverse language learning pathways of children?

- What additional opportunities can you create as part of the normal teaching and learning process to include different languages and cultural experiences?
- How can you use your existing pedagogical knowledge and experience to support the children's additional languages (including home or community languages)?
- What can you do to create a safe and inclusive learning environment where children feel comfortable to share their language and cultural practices with the other children and the adults in the educational setting?

- How can you involve:
  - Different resources – for example technology or multilingual books
  - Parents or community members

to make the different language learning pathways of the children visible in the classroom and the wider education setting?
- What skills or knowledge do you want to (further) develop to support the different language learning pathways of the children in your setting?

Interested in finding out what this might look like in practice?

These resources explore what implementing plurilingual approaches looked like in one [primary school in Ireland](#) - Léargas Languages Coordinator Eli Babei and Dr. Déirdre Kirwan explore ways to let all your primary students' languages be seen and heard in school. [Language Jewels](#) is a three-part series which follows the experience of Scoil Bhríde Cailíní, a primary school based in Blanchardstown that has passed in a short period of time from being a “typical” English speaking primary school, to host more than 40 languages in its classrooms.

This poster from the “[Language Friendly school project](#)” provides ideas for activities as a school and in the classroom.